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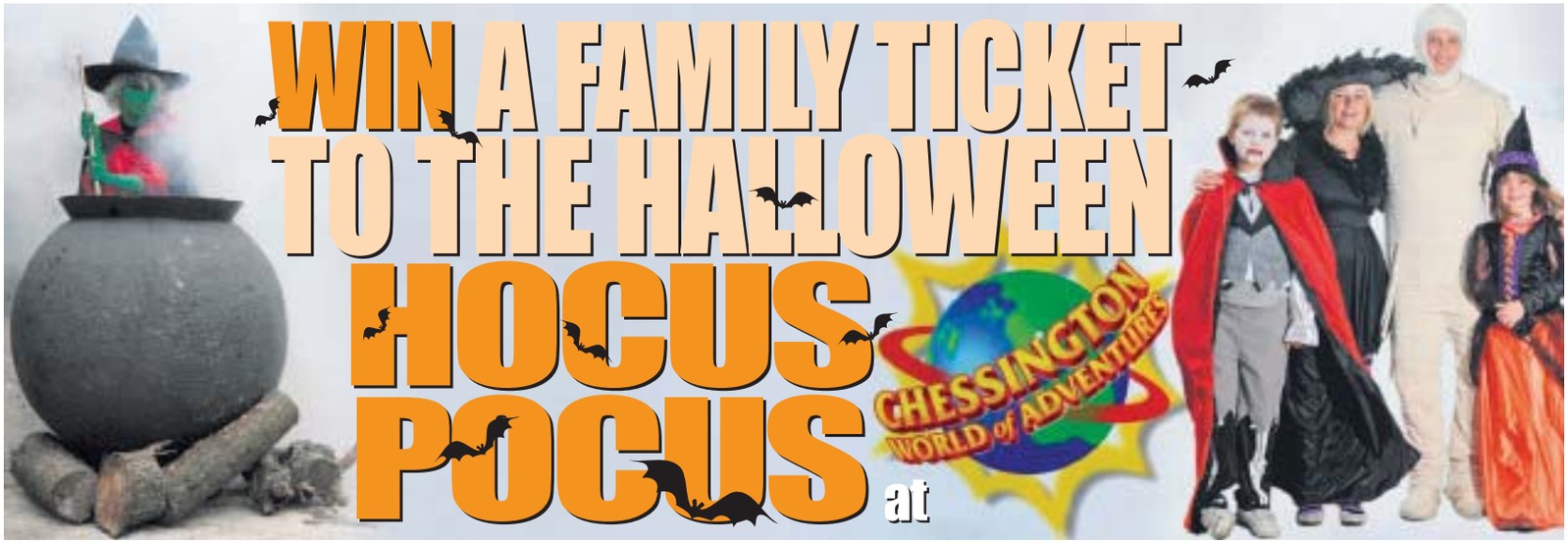

E.ON 'HIDING TRUTH' OVER KINGSNORTH

New coal power plant still a possibility

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

ENERGY giant E.ON has been accused of being economical with the truth over its shelving of plans for a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth.

The German company announced on Thursday that a fall in the demand for electricity due to the recession had prompted its decision to delay the proposed scheme for up to three years, despite just hours earlier hinting the time it was taking the Government to decide on the application was likely to hamper its plans anyway.

E.ON's official reason appeared all the more unlikely on Friday morning when energy regulator Ofgem announced that electricity bills could rise by 60 per cent over the next seven years due to volatile gas markets and power stations like the existing Kingsnorth plant nearing the end of their use.

Shadow energy and climate change secretary Greg Clark – who is also Tory MP for Tunbridge Wells – told Kent on Sunday he thought the company had changed tack so as to appear more diplomatic.

He said: "The current economic climate is clearly not the most important factor here. The real reason is pretty clear – E.ON does not have confidence in the current UK energy policy, and that's exactly what I've been saying for a long time. The whole thing is mired in bureaucracy and no-one knows where they stand.

"I think there's always a bit of diplomacy involved when it comes to big corporations nowadays, but if you asked them privately I'm sure they would agree."

Green campaigners, residents and politicians alike had been expecting the Government to make a decision on the Kingsnorth application at the beginning of this year, but the announcement was delayed and no new date given.

The existing plant is also still in the running to receive funding to develop a carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration plant, but again a decision on which power station will win the competition has yet to be made.

The Government wants any new power stations to have clean-coal technology installed by 2014, but a new Kingsnorth on the Hoo peninsula would now not be built until about 2016.

Just hours before announcing it was putting

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Dame Kelly fighting for new Games

SEE INSIDE FOR FULL STORY

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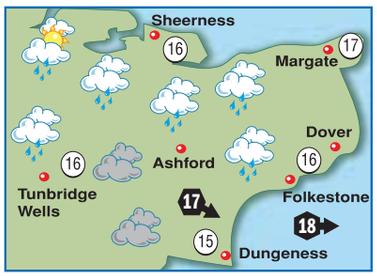
Kent today



TODAY: Today will be rather wet with rain and drizzle for a time. Becoming mainly dry during the afternoon. Clearer weather during the early evening. Moderate north-westerly winds. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F).
TONIGHT: Dry with long clear spells and little cloud. Brisk northerly winds. Min temp 7-10C (45-50F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	12	54	London	cloudy	17	63
Belfast	cloudy	14	57	Liverpool	fair	15	59
Birmingham	cloudy	15	59	Manchester	rain	14	57
B'mouth	cloudy	18	64	Newcastle	fair	14	57
Bristol	cloudy	17	63	Norwich	cloudy	16	61
Cardiff	rain	15	59	Oxford	rain	16	61
Cork	cloudy	17	63	Southsea	cloudy	17	63
Edinburgh	fair	14	57	S'hampton	drizzle	16	61
Glasgow	fair	14	57	Southport	fair	15	59
Isle of Man	fair	14	57	Swansea	rain	16	61
Leeds	drizzle	13	55	Torquay	cloudy	17	63

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.13am	Sunset	6.10pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	11.30pm	Moonset	3.09pm	6.10pm to 7.14am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	04.11	5.8	16.45	5.6	05.33	5.5	18.26	5.4
Margate	04.57	4.1	17.42	4.1	06.09	3.9	19.14	3.9
St Mary's	10.10	4.7	22.57	4.4	11.38	4.5	–	–

Week ahead

monday Sunny spells max 16C min 7C
tuesday Sunny spells max 16C min 9C
wednesday Cloudy. Dry max 17C min 9C
thursday Sunny spells max 17C min 9C
friday Cloudy. Dry max 17C min 8C
saturday Cloudy. Dry max 16C min 8C

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A Kingsnorth coal-fired plant could still be built

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

the plans on hold, a spokesman told KoS: "We are committed to participating in the Government's competition and believe the development of Kingsnorth as part of a 'Thames cluster' of power stations remains an excellent opportunity for the South East to lead in a low-carbon future.

"In terms of timescales specifically, the fact we haven't received approval for Kingsnorth yet will make completing the plant by the competition's 2014 deadline challenging to say the least."

When questioned later by KoS as to why the firm had changed its stance, a spokesman failed to answer and instead reiterated that the recession was to blame.

E.ON has received almost constant criticism from environmentalists since it first applied for permission to build the new Kingsnorth in December, 2006.

They were angry that more environmentally-friendly methods of energy production were not being considered and that such a plant might be approved without proof that CCS technology could work on such a scale.

A number of demonstrations have taken place at the site as a result, the most notable of which occurred last year when hundreds clashed with police at the Climate Camp.

Groups including Kingsnorth Climate Action Medway, Greenpeace and the World Development Movement were among those celebrating E.ON's latest announcement.

While some admitted the battle had not quite been won, others were far more confident of victory.

Oxfam's campaigns director Thomas Schultz-Jagow said: "We welcome E.ON's announcement, which ultimately means the end of new coal at Kingsnorth.

"It is highly doubtful E.ON would dare come back in three years' time with plans that are outdated even today."

Despite Mr Schultz-Jagow's optimism, such a decision by the energy firm could realistically depend on who is Prime Minister following the next general election.

During his speech to the Conservative party conference on Tuesday, Mr Clark announced that a Tory government would immediately authorise five gigawatts of clean coal capacity – potentially opening the door for E.ON to revive its plans.

He told KoS: "It's hard for any energy company to make any investment decisions at the moment because everything is in chaos.

"Kingsnorth might not necessarily be one of the stations that could benefit from our proposed policy, but we are facing power cuts by 2017, and cannot afford to hang about."

See the films, search 'Kingsnorth' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

See a series of films about the power station, including this one of a Greenpeace protest and break in

Arab money offered to construct Boris Island

By **NICK AMES**
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

LONDON Mayor Boris Johnson's plan to build an airport off the coast of Sheppey could be backed by money from oil-rich countries in the Gulf, say his office.

Any financial backing could mean 'Boris Island', as the £40 billion proposed site two miles off Sheerness has been dubbed, could be entirely bankrolled and owned by sheikhs – and interest in the controversial project has also been expressed by the Chinese.

The Mayor's deputy, Kit Malthouse, said the airport could be built within 10 years and plans so far indicate it would dwarf the capacity of Heathrow's current two runways.

Mr Malthouse said: "We have had an incredible amount of interest from countries such as Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, which have signaled they would like to fund the airport. It is possible we could build it without taxpayers' money."

Mr Malthouse said the Chinese government had also indicated, during discussions held at the Beijing Olympics, that it may want to put cash into the project.

He added that interest from countries willing to fund the airport answers the critics who dismissed the scheme as too expensive.

The Government, which is planning to increase airport capacity through a third runway at Heathrow if it wins the next election, has previously called it "fantasy island", while airport operator BAA has questioned where the money would come from.

CONTROVERSY: Boris Johnson

Mr Johnson wants to avoid the expansion of Heathrow, but his alternative offshore plan has put him at loggerheads with fellow Tory and Kent County Council leader, Cllr Paul Carter, who has repeatedly expressed his opposition to the controversial proposal.

Next week Mr Johnson's office will publish the first "surface level" feasibility study into the airport, which is looking for any major hurdles that could prevent construction. Mr Malthouse said it will show the two artificial islands built in four-metre deep water and holding up to six runways will be "technically possible".

ON HAND: Men from UKISAR team help out

Fire crews help victims of quake

FIREFIGHTERS from Kent were among those carrying out humanitarian work in an earthquake-hit region of Indonesia.

The 10-strong group – including one search dog – joined more than 50 other rescue workers who flew to Padang last week as part of the UK International Search and Rescue (UKISAR) response.

As well as assessing the stability of some buildings still standing, the team also helped deliver aid to Save the Children workers who were in the area.

Team leader John Mazzey said: "The damage in the central area was mixed. Some of the buildings did not appear to have been affected at all, while others were completely flattened.

Encounter

"We ended up covering some of the more remote areas of Padang that had not received any aid, so they really appreciated us being there. But it was important we were not a burden to the country and so we took our own food and accommodation."

Firefighters from Tunbridge Wells, Thanet, Dover and Folkestone were all deployed to Indonesia, joining colleagues from several other fire services throughout the UK.

Some of those involved in the operation work for UKISAR full time.

Mr Mazzey said: "We always make sure we talk to each other about the things we have seen and done because we don't want things building up inside us that might cause problems later. Fortunately we didn't encounter anything too distressing on this occasion."

Pond life saved in sewage leak

MORE than 100 fish were left "gasping for air" when sewage leaked into a pond in Chequers Wood, near Canterbury.

Environment Agency officers worked with Southern Water and landowner the Ministry of Defence following the incident on Friday, using specialist equipment to pump air back into the water.

Area manager Andrew Pearce said: "We acted swiftly when we were first alerted to this sewage leak incident, and sent teams down on the site working with emergency services to save pond life and limit any harmful pollution damage. We will be investigating what happened in an effort to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Noisy neighbour silenced by Asbo

CHANTING and praying in a loud voice at night has landed a 52-year-old woman with an Anti-Social Behaviour Order.

Martina Rabess, from Tunbridge Wells, also lit candles, rang her neighbours' doorbells and sprayed an unusual liquid made from vinegar, garlic and water on their plants and cars.

The two-year order was imposed on Wednesday following her conviction on July 3 for criminal damage and assault.

Rabess has now been banned from contacting four of her neighbours and told to stop making loud noises outside her flat.

Kelly on political trail for Schools Olympics

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
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DOUBLE Olympic gold medallist Dame Kelly Holmes has said she hopes a Conservative government would be as "passionate" about sport as Labour if they win the next general election.

In an address to delegates at the Tory party conference in Manchester, she called for a Schools Olympics to be launched based on the model of the Kent School Games, which sees 30,000 young people compete biannually in 38 sports and disability sports.

Shadow sports secretary Jeremy Hunt said that, if in government, his party would set up a national sports competition with finals held in the 2012 Olympics stadium in east London.

Dame Kelly, who is from Tonbridge, was also at the Labour conference in Brighton the previous week.

She said she was pleased her idea had support, but it did not matter which of the main parties backed the idea.

"I've only been working with Labour as national schools sports champion," she said. "I hope if they [the Tories] win they will be as passionate about sport.

"Things have improved over the last few years in the sports system and schools system, so it is positive. But we cannot be complacent – things have got better, but we have to make them even better. We have to make sports available for everyone and make people feel part of something special and make sport an integral part of life."

Last week, Dame Kelly launched the 2010 Kent School Games, which are organised by Kent County Council, at Hayesbrook Sports College in Tonbridge.

She also launched the 2008 games.

"It was the mass participation and how so many people and agencies were running the events the council, schools, teachers and young people that came on board, I thought it was absolutely brilliant and a great model to replicate around the country," she said.

IN THE RUNNING: KCC Chairman John Davies, Dame Kelly Holmes, Paul Carter and MP Hugh Robertson at Hayesbrook

"I've been mulling over it. I'm always being asked my opinion or to back an initiative and this was one of the things I was asked about and I said 'yes'. Equally if Labour turned around and said 'we'll put it on', that would be great, too."

Before she retired from athletics in 2005, Dame Kelly won golds in the 800m and 1,500m at the 2004 Athens Olympics. She won her first Olympic medal at the 2000 Sydney Games where she took bronze in the 800m race.

Dame Kelly said it was important to keep up the momentum after the London Games.

"Obviously not everyone can go the Olympics and compete, how many people get to do that? But this would ensure that young people are involved in more than just watching," she said.

"It is the momentum of doing something, something that can be kept for years to come.

"Yes, we'll hold one of the best Games ever without a doubt, but we need to create something everyone can remember longer term."

Dame Kelly runs a number of initiatives supporting young athletes.

Talking about the importance of young people participating in sports, she said: "It is about pushing you own boundaries, not being afraid of losing, improving your health, self-esteem, skills and leadership."

Dame Kelly has teamed up with celebrity chef Ainsley Harriot for the latest part of her On Camp with Kelly initiative, which has been running since 2004, and provides 800m and 1500 athletes and their coaches with mentoring opportunities from her.

The pair were at the University of Birmingham yesterday educating young athletes and young people at university about the importance of good nutrition for physical and mental performance.

She added: "In everything I do I have my own opinions and I do not let what other people think influence me if I think something will be beneficial to young people.

"I spoke about replicating the Kent School Games because I believe it is a really good model."

For more information about the On Camp with Kelly initiative go to www.oncampwithkelly.co.uk.

A MOTORIST has broken a comparison website's record by finding an insurance policy worth just 96p per year.

Civil servant Barbara Wakerell, from Dover, was quoted £120.96 by Swinton, but used various discount offers to get £120 taken off. She found the bargain on MoneySavingExpert.com.

Founder Martin Lewis said: "While many report getting insurance for less than £100 following the system, we thought the previous £14 record was near invincible."

To see this search 'Fuller' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

As part of KOS Media's behind the scenes look at the work of Kent Police, and the Safer Kent campaign, Chief Constable Michael Fuller answers questions from the public

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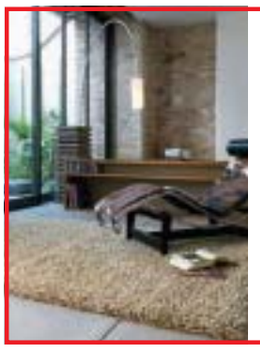

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Extra funding to test care budget

MEDWAY is among 20 sites nationally to have won £100,000 from the Department of Health to pilot a new initiative.

Personal health budgets, which aim to give people choice and control over their healthcare, will be trialled by patients across the primary care trust's area.

Marion Dinwoodie, chief executive of NHS Medway, said: "The Department of Health has made it clear the innovative approach led by us and Medway Council was key to the success of the bid."

The personal health budgets, which enable patients to choose how the money set aside for their care is spent, will be tested by people with a long-term condition who need end-of-life care and will be available from January.

Existing research teams at the University of Kent and three other universities will carry out a study of the pilot sites.

Opening brings Hope to sports

THE HEAD coach of the England woman's football team is to open a new £2.7 million sports pavilion.

The centre at the University of Kent's Canterbury campus features changing rooms with under-floor heating, a social area with a café bar, and viewing balconies overlooking grass and artificial pitches.

Hope Powell OBE will officially launch the new facility on Wednesday and the event will include football displays by university staff and students, and pupils from Canterbury High School.

England lost 6-2 against Germany last month in the final of the Women's European Championship.

Green ambition is primary goal

A PRIMARY school in Kent is aiming to be the country's first carbon neutral school.

St Peter's School in Aylesford launched its campaign to get environmentally sustainable this summer and is now 'laying down the gauntlet' to other schools to follow suit.

Headteacher Simon Temple said: "We are still in the early stages, but so far we have a clear strategy to reduce, reuse and recycle throughout the school while using renewable sources to power, heat and light the building.

"I want to show that if we can achieve this target, others can follow suit."

One of the challenges facing the school is the fact it is based in an old Victorian building dating from 1836, which is airy and needs to be properly insulated.

To see this clip search 'bishop' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott has been appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, to be the new Bishop of Dover and Bishop in Canterbury

Castle is ultimate detached home

EVERY Englishman's home is his castle, but not many can say theirs really is a castle.

However, for around £750,000, that can change for one lucky buyer as Stone Castle near Dartford goes under the hammer.

It is believed to date back to the early 12th century, and is understood to be the location where William the Conqueror signed a Treaty with the men of Kent in 1067, just a year after he beat Harold at the Battle of Hastings.

It's a bit calmer these days and has Grade-II listing building status, along with the cottage in the grounds, which is included in the sale.

Clive Emson auctioneers said the castle is still full of character and history, with few people knowing about it as the site is hidden away near Bluewater shopping centre.

There are quite a few stand-out points with the property, said auctioneer John Stockey, including the original 40ft tower and features from a rebuild in the 1300s. It all stands in nearly two-and-a-half acres of gardens.

The castle goes to auction on November 5, at Ramada Hotel, Hollingbourne, near Maidstone.

HOME SWEET HOME: Stone Castle

Lovers' embrace by the sea lead to tragedy for toddler

Kiss of death

By SIMON ROBINSON
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A MARRIED man's quick kiss with his illicit lover led to the death of his two-year-old daughter, an inquest was told.

Toddler Rebecca Hopper died after the double buggy carrying her and baby brother Lewis was blown into the ice-cold water off Folkestone seafront.

Father, Andrew Hopper, from Chatham, said he let go of the buggy during his embrace with BAE Systems co-worker Paula Anderson.

A statement from the dad-of-three was read out at the Ashford Magistrates Court hearing.

It read: "We kissed momentarily – I let go of the buggy and seconds into that kiss we heard a plop. It was like someone throwing a stone into the water.

"We broke from the kiss and thought what was that?"

Recording a verdict of accidental death coroner Rachel Redman described how the 38-year-old stopped to kiss his mistress.

She said: "They stopped to kiss and were aware subsequently of the sound of something entering the water which they, to their horror, discovered was the buggy.

"Rebecca lost her life as the result of falling into the water. This is a tragic accident in which a little girl has lost her life."

Rescue attempt

The inquest heard how the couple dived into the cold swell on February 15 this year to rescue the little girl – who was strapped into her buggy next to her eight-month-old brother Lewis.

Miss Anderson, 38, described the dramatic rescue bid and said how she tried to fish out Rebecca while Mr Hopper tried to unstrap Lewis: "It was a horrible realisation that the buggy went over the edge.

"Andrew jumped in first and when I realised there was no way get the buggy and children out I jumped in as well.

"Andrew went for Lewis and I grabbed Becca. We struggled in the water.

"It was very cold – it was very deep as well. I tried to keep her above the water as best I could."

Rebecca was airlifted to a specialist unit at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, but declared dead two hours later.

Lewis was taken to the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, where he recovered fully.

Mother Sarah Hopper, 35, a beautician from Chatham, had not known about her husband's affair before that day.

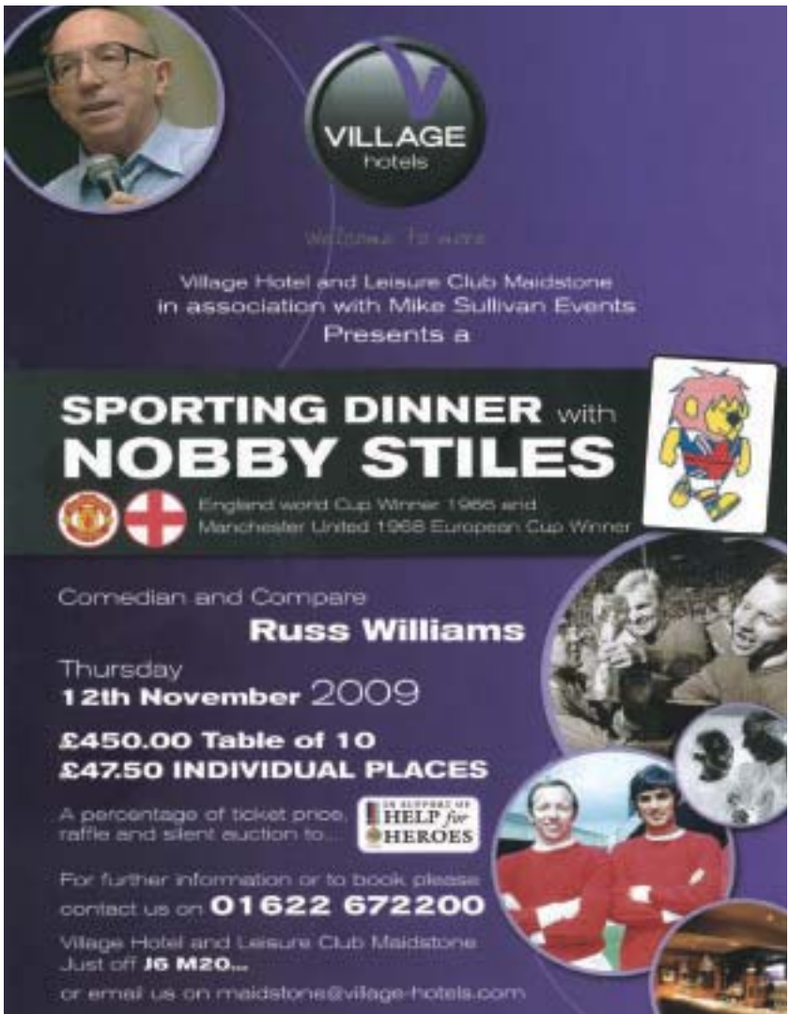
A statement read out on her behalf after Thursday's hearing read: "Rebecca was my beautiful baby girl and her brothers and I miss her every second of every day.

"While today's decision will help us take the next step in our recovery, the accident which took my little girl's life could so easily have been avoided.

"Rebecca will never be forgotten and I intend to make sure my two boys will always know how important she was in our lives."

The Crown Prosecution Service found no criminal offences to be prosecuted.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH: Rebecca Hopper



Ex-council head gets suspended prison sentence

A FORMER Tory leader of Bexley Council and deputy to London mayor Boris Johnson has been given a 12-week suspended jail sentence after he admitted to fraud.

Ian Clement, 44, appeared at Westminster Magistrates Court this week and pleaded guilty to the three fraud allegations relating to meals worth a total of £156.70.

Clement had paid for the meals with his lover Claire Dowson with his Greater London Authority credit card.

He claimed to be meeting the leaders of three London Tory boroughs.

Clement, from Crayford, resigned from his £128,000 job as deputy mayor for external relations in June, after the police investigation into his actions was started.

He had been leader of Bexley Council from May, 2006, until May, 2008, when he resigned to start work for Boris Johnson.

Growing pains tackled in soap

A 10-part soap opera called Hollywould starts on Kent County Council's Kent TV internet service on Wednesday.

The £20,000 series has been scripted by former EastEnders writer Julie Wassmer and will tackle issues such as sexual health and the spiking of drinks.

Filmed in several locations in the county, Hollywould tells the tale of 19-year-old student Holly and the challenges she faces in adjusting to adult life.

The director, writer and film editor are from Kent and 25 actors, runners and extras gained work experience from the project.

Police on target for pledge effort

KENT Police are one of only eight forces in the country to have been praised for the way they are delivering the Policing Pledge.

The force was graded 'good' for six out of the 10 Policing Pledge points, which include answering emergency calls within 10 seconds, and ensuring neighbourhood officers are visible at all times.

It received a rating of 'good' overall, with none of the 43 forces reviewed by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary hitting the top score of 'excellent'.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beautridge said: "We are pleased to have been graded one of the top eight forces in the country for our delivery of the Policing Pledge. This is a great base to work from so we can ensure we provide the quality service we have promised."

Pictures: TONY KING/THE ASPINALL FOUNDATION

SHY CREATURES: The greater bamboo lemur in the rainforest of eastern Madagascar. They were made famous in Disney's film (below)

Rare lemurs found

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A WILD animal park is pouring £100,000 a year into saving one of the world's rarest creatures, made famous in the animated children's movie Madagascar.

Borat star Sacha Baron Cohen's scene-stealing lemur King Julian may have been a cocky know-it-all in the film, but in reality his species is close to dying out.

A scientific survey by the Aspinall Foundation has made a major breakthrough after discovering there are as many as 200 of the greater bamboo lemur left on the island, which is double other recent findings.

But 200 of the rare greater bamboo lemur, or Prolemur simus, is not going to be enough for the breed to survive, especially when they are seen as a delicacy and are poached to put on the plate.

An expedition into Madagascar's rainforest has found evidence of habitat being destroyed and excessive hunting, which is threatening to wipe them out completely. They are now the most threatened primates.

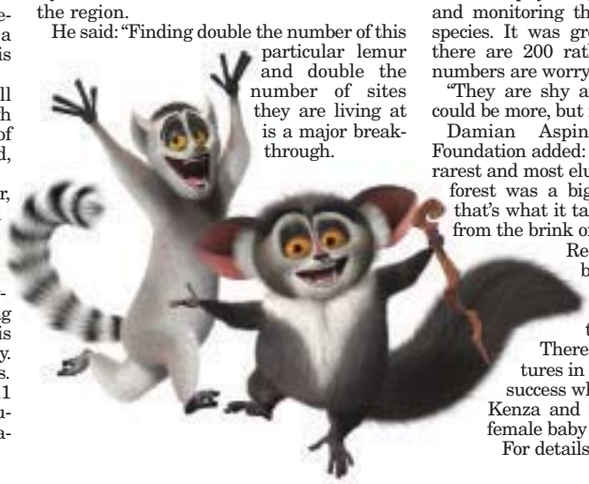
Conservationists discovered them at 11 new sites in the rainforests, which has doubled the number of locations where the creatures live.

The greater bamboo lemur was thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in the early 1980s.

It is the only species within the Prolemur group, and current scientific knowledge indicates it is the most engendered of all lemurs.

Amos Courage, overseas director of the Aspinall Foundation, which runs Port Lympne Park and Howletts wild animals parks, said saving this lemur was a priority to ensure the circle of life continues in the region.

He said: "Finding double the number of this particular lemur and double the number of sites they are living at is a major breakthrough.



"The situation in Madagascar is made even more difficult with the recent political turmoil and aid being withdrawn.

"The situation for the lemur is desperate because people are poaching them for food. A huge haul of smoked lemurs were recently found.

"Their habits are being steadily destroyed and they are being made to spread out so far that it makes breeding difficult.

"We are physically patrolling their habitats and monitoring the last individuals of the species. It was great news that we found there are 200 rather than 100, but these numbers are worryingly low.

"They are shy and rare animals – there could be more, but not many more."

Damian Aspinall of The Aspinall Foundation added: "Searching for the world's rarest and most elusive lemur in this remote forest was a big gamble, but sometimes that's what it takes to help save a species from the brink of extinction."

Readers can see greater bamboo lemurs at Port Lympne, one of only seven zoos in the world to hold this species.

There are only 19 of the creatures in captivity, so it was a great success when Port Lympne's female Kenza and the male Zig produced a female baby named Bekily in 2006.

For details see www.totallywild.net.

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Crusaders battle flu

Pandemic knocks out half of team

By JENNA PUDELEK
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A BASKETBALL squad is hoping to be fighting fit for this weekend's games after half its players were laid low by swine flu.

The Medway Park Crusaders lost away to north London team Edmonton Storm 83-93 last Saturday after five of the 10 players were struck down by the H1N1 virus.

Head coach Mads Olesen said he was hoping to have a full squad of healthy players for their two final games of the Patrons Cup this weekend against Plymouth Marjon and rivals the Brixton Topcats, who knocked the Crusaders out of last year's National Cup.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday, he said: "It seems like most of the players are up and walking again, but not up to speed.

"We have also picked up another couple of injuries to Kalil Irving, who has injured and maybe broken his hip, and James Harris who has injured his back."

The latest statistics for swine flu cases show a varied picture across Kent and Medway.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent reported a slight increase in GP consultation rates per 100,000 of the population for people with flu-like illness rising from 12.4 for the week ending September 20, to 16.5 for the week ending September 27.

NHS Medway saw the number of patients with flu-like symptoms double for the same period. But NHS West Kent reported a slight decrease in flu-like activity over the period, dropping from 38.9 per 100,000 of the population to 31.3.

RECOVERY: Medway Park Crusaders are hoping to be back on form ready for action

The number of patients collecting antivirals across the county has also risen from 1,176 from September 24-30, to 1,251 for whole of last week.

Health bosses urged people to ensure they are registered with a GP ahead of the swine flu vaccination programme, which is due to start soon.

Priority groups will be given the jab first and include people aged over six months and under 65 who are in seasonal flu vaccine clinical at risk groups, all pregnant women, people in regular close contact with patients on treatment for cancer or with compromised immune systems, and people over 65 in the current seasonal flu vaccine clinical at risk groups. However, healthy over 65s will not be in the first round as they appear to have some natural immunity to the virus.

Frontline health and social care workers will also be offered the vaccine.

Andrew Scott-Clark, deputy director of public health in east Kent, said: "There are various reasons why people may not be registered with a GP, but we would encourage people to make sure they are registered now so they can be offered a vaccination if they're in a priority group."

West Kent's programme director, resilience planning, Sharon Jones said it was crucial that people in the priority group did everything they can to avoid catching swine flu.

Since July, 577 people have been hospitalised in connection with swine flu in the NHS South East Coast, which covers Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

NHS Medway said it was important to follow good hygiene – always use a tissue to catch sneezes, throw them away afterwards and wash your hands regularly.

The Crusaders' coach Mr Olesen knows the impact swine flu can have.

"It was definitely a challenge," he added. "But how you respond to challenges is what defines what kind of team you're going to be.

"If we stand up and fight in a situation like this we'll stand up and fight no matter what is thrown at us this season.

"We knew it was going to be tough, and it definitely was. We were not able to come out with the win but the players showed some gut and determination in the second half and I'm proud of that."

Leader's plea to party conference to scrap quangos

KENT County Council leader Paul Carter spoke at the Conservative Party Conference to renew calls for regional quangos to be scrapped.

The councillor, who is currently the country's most powerful Tory in office after London Mayor Boris Johnson, launched the Show us the Money campaign at a fringe meeting in Manchester this week.

The campaign is calling for a county breakdown of the public money spent on unelected quangos (quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisations), which was promised under the Sustainable Communities Act.

"You could get rid of the vast majority of quangos and empower local government, both at the district, unitary and county level," said Cllr Carter. "The £65 billion held in these regional quangos, like regional development agencies (RDAs), could be put into local government."

Fragmented

Cllr Carter has been a long-term campaigner for transferring responsibility from quangos.

Party leader David Cameron has said a Tory government would drastically reduce the number of publicly-funded unelected organisations.

Cllr Carter wants to see regional policy, regeneration, social housing, skill and learning transferred to local government. He has said this would save £5 billion in the South East alone.

However, David Seall, South East region director of EEF, an organisation that represents manufacturers, said getting rid of RDAs could create a "fragmented" approach to economic development.

A spokesman for the South East of England Development Agency (Seeda) added: "Last year Seeda's work helped create or secure 8,000 jobs, helped 17,000 people to find work and helped 22,000 people to improve their skills."

Charity honours disabled sailor

INSPIRATIONAL: Hilary Lister

KENT'S inspirational and record-breaking yachtswoman, Hilary Lister, has been named Woman of Achievement 2009 by a national disability charity.

This summer, the 37-year-old, who lives near Canterbury, became the first disabled woman to sail solo around the UK in her specially adapted Artemis 20 boat.

Now, the charity Vitalise has honoured her work pioneering disabled sailing and her yachting achievements, which also include becoming the first quadriplegic person to sail solo across the English Channel and the first female quadriplegic to circumnavigate the Isle of Wight.

"It is a huge honour," Mrs Lister said. "It is overwhelming when you look back."

Sophie Cox, the charity's head of events, said: "At Vitalise we want to enrich the lives of disabled people by helping them achieve their personal goals, and Hilary is a fantastic example of that spirit."

Mrs Lister said she hoped to be an inspiration to all women.

She said: "I hope it's not just to disabled women or disabled people. It is more important that everybody draws as much inspiration from this as they can really."

Vitalise provides short breaks for disabled people and carers.

Mrs Lister said her charity Hilary's Dream Trust was about getting people to "push their boundaries and do things they did not think they would manage".

She told Kent on Sunday she has also been nominated for the World Sailor of the Year awards, which will be announced in Korea on November 10.

God-daughter of soul

Star Amy predicts big future for teen singer Dionne

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
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AMY Winehouse's talented god-daughter was set to burst onto the music scene last night with a performance on Strictly Come Dancing.

Dionne Bromfield, 13, from Chislehurst in Bromley, had been lined up to perform on the hit BBC show to help promote her debut album, Introducing Dionne Bromfield.

The Beaverwood School for Girls pupil is the first singer signed up to Winehouse's Lioness Records label, and her appearance alongside her god-mother on one of Britain's most popular television programmes demonstrates the confidence those in the industry have in her talents.

Before last night's performance, Dionne told the official Lioness website that she had only played live on a handful of occasions.

Different

She said: "I'm looking forward to doing more. It's alright hearing someone on a record, but seeing them live is a different thing.

"A lot of people assume that I sing like Britney Spears when they hear that I'm a 13-year-old with a record deal, but when they hear me sing live, they're like, 'Wow! I didn't really expect that'.

"Hopefully the album will go bang – a good bang, not a bad bang – and then I'll be able to do another one."

Dionne is already familiar to tens of thousands of music fans thanks to a video clip of her singing alongside Winehouse that hit the internet late last year.

POTENTIAL: Dionne Bromfield and (above) with godmother Amy Winehouse, who says the teen is a better singer than she was at 13

Filmed at the home of former Libertines frontman Pete Doherty, the clip shows Dionne belting out Alicia Keyes' If I Ain't Got You while her godmother strums away on the guitar.

In an interview with The Independent late last year, Winehouse predicted a bright future for the youngster.

She said: "Dionne is the one – I love her to bits. She really is special, she's better than I was at her age.

"Dionne is young but she has more potential than any girl I've ever seen. I know she's got an advantage by knowing me but I'd put her in a room against anyone and she'd do the business."

The album Introducing Dionne Bromfield features 12 covers of well-known hits including My Boy Lollipop, Ain't No Mountain High Enough and her debut single, Mama Said.

When asked how she decided which songs to include, Dionne said: "They're all covers of songs my mum used to play when I was a little girl.

"When they said I could do an album, I just started doing all the songs that I liked and it turned into the album.

"Mama Said is just a really good song – they all are. And I don't think a lot of younger people know these songs, so it's good to get them out there."

Holly's Hart art

ARTWORK inspired by the late Tony Hart is to be unveiled on what would have been the much-loved broadcaster's birthday.

The work by Holly Gerrard, 16, is of Morph painting a portrait of the Maidstone-born Vision On and Take Hart presenter.

It will be unveiled at Maidstone Museum by Mr Hart's daughter, Carolyn Williams, on Thursday, which would have been his 84th birthday.

Cllr Brian Moss, Maidstone's cabinet member for leisure and culture, said: "This work is extraordinary. It's clear Holly spent a lot of time and effort on it.

"It's a pleasure to be part of anything to do with Tony Hart. He has been a great influence on people and I'm sure if he could have seen this work he would have been proud."

A plaque to the artist and television presenter, who died in January this year, has also been unveiled at the Hazlitt Arts Centre.

Murder charge

POLICE have charged a second man with the 2003 murder of Kamaljit Kalon in Gravesend.

Baljinder Singh Kooner – also known as Jindi – was arrested in Paris last month and sent back to England on Wednesday, when he was charged at Maidstone police station.

Mr Kalon, who was known as Bobby, was 31 when he was stabbed in Gordon Promenade, Gravesend, on July 10, 2003. He had travelled there from his home in Sidcup to meet some men.

Mr Kalon left a widow, Ravinder, to whom he had been married for two years, and her three children from a previous marriage.

In September last year, 33-year-old Guljinder Singh Gurewel pleaded guilty to murder and was jailed for at least 17 years.

'Forgotten' dockyard gem added to endangered list

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
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THE Georgian dockyard on the Isle of Sheppey has been listed among 93 of the most endangered heritage sites in the world.

Sheerness Dockyard joins 12,000-year-old cave art at Wonderwerk in South Africa, the World Heritage Site of Machu Picchu in Peru, and a library dating from the 1970s in Atlanta, USA, on the diverse World Monuments Watch 2010.

William Palin, secretary of Save British Heritage and one of people who nominated the dockyard, said: "Of all the monuments – and certainly the British ones – on the list it has captured the imagination because people don't know about it.

"It's really got them excited. They were surprised because you wouldn't think of Sheerness as exotic as Machu Picchu. But it's perfect for the list because there's so much there."

Dr Jonathan Foyle, chief executive of the World Monument Fund Britain (MFU), said the sites on the list, which includes temples, rice terraces, walled cities and historic centres around the globe, had been judged on their significance, how endangered they are, and their potential.

Sheerness Dockyard is one of six sites in the UK, others include historic graveyards in Edinburgh and the moderist Tecton Buildings at Dudley Zoo.

UNDER THREAT: The dockyard's church

Dr Foyle said: "Sheerness is a diverse site and tells the story of Britain's maritime history from Henry VIII's time."

He said plans of the port's buildings dating from Nelson's era showed how the Admiralty then operated, from the commissioner's house down all the ranks.

"The decreasing size of the houses, even the back gardens are shown, the coach houses, sinks and kitchens, basements – it's like an untapped museum," he said.

"We must make sure it doesn't follow the fate of the church which was attacked by arsonists. That should be a wake-up call."

Mr Palin, son of Monty Python actor Michael, said the dockyard had been on Save British Heritage's list of sites in need of protection for a long time, but the publicity of the MFU's list would bring it to prominence.

He said he had bought and renovated one of the houses on the dockyard site.

The MFU said nearly half the sites featured on the 2008 watch list had received funds totally $50 million (£31m).

Justin Webb, who was born on Sheppey and also lives in one of the former officers' houses at the site, led the bid to get the dockyard nominated.

"People don't realise what's here," he said.

Mr Webb, whose father used to work at the dockyard, said he wanted the site to be sympathetically restored.

Sheerness Historic Dockyard Preservation Society will begin work soon and is keen to start with the burnt-out church, he said.

The entire complex went up in one phase of construction in 1815. It has one Grade-I and more than 30 Grade-II listed structures.

Dr Foyle said: "One of the buildings is a multi-storey iron-framed structure, like a missing link for the world's highest buildings. Commercial power gave rise to some extraordinary experimental buildings that paved the way for the modern age."

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Brewery using local produce to make 'Viceroy' of all beers

National Trust hails its Holy Grail of ales

RAISE A GLASS: Viceroy India Pale Ale has been brewed for National Trust

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

THE first beer for the National Trust to be sold across the UK is being made by a Kent brewer.

It's called Viceroy India Pale Ale, will be available in casks and bottles, and "represents the best of British fare at affordable prices".

The beer is the work of staff at Westerham Brewery using hops from nearby Scotney Castle, the Trust's last remaining hop garden, and barley grown on land adjoining Uppark, a Trust property in West Sussex.

The Viceroy is described as a golden, nutty and hoppy ale which was inspired by Lord Curzon, 1st Marquis of Kedleston, a generous donor to the National Trust.

Brewery boss Robert Wicks, who set up the firm in 2004, said: "Lord Curzon was the Viceroy of India. While he was on horseback in the southern foothills of Afghanistan he is said to have been dreaming of the ale brewed here in Kent."

In fact, the Viceroy wrote in his memoirs: "As I rode down the grassy slopes, I saw coming towards me in the distance the figure of a solitary horseman… at that moment I would have given a kingdom, not for champagne or hock and soda, or hot coffee, but for a glass of beer!"

The brewery was formerly a dairy in the 1950s on a National Trust farm at Westerham – and the firm brought back to life a 200-year-old tradition of beer production in the town.

The brewery specialises in real ales primarily for the local market, and it has revived many traditional brews including Little Scotney Best Bitter which was awarded the National Trust's Fine Farm Produce Award in 2008.

The beer joins a new range of food from the National Trust which also includes breads, biscuits, meat products and prepared foods to champion the best of British foods.

The Kent made ale is 'triple-hopped' to boost the depth of flavour.

Connection

Mr Wicks said: "We have been producing beers for the National Trust for five years, including Little Scotney Pale Ale and Little Scotney Best Bitter which were sold in local Trust shops and are now going nationwide.

"But the Viceroy represents the Holy Grail for us as we are using malts and hops from both National Trust estates.

"It has made us the biggest micro-brewer in Kent. The sales from the beer has allowed us to re-invest in hop growing at Scotney Castle. We are all about keeping hop growing in Kent."

He said they would also love to start shipping crates of their beer out to the British troops in Afghanistan in case they were suffering similar hallucinations as the Viceroy the ale takes its name from.

Also with a Kent connection is National Trust Barm Bread, a traditional wheaten bread made with beer produced from hops grown at Scotney.

Viceroy is available in 500ml bottles and on draught from Westerham Brewery, or at www.westerhambrewery.co.uk. A case of 12 bottles retails at £23.

Outlets will include the National Trust's restaurants, tearooms and independent licensees.

Picture: NATIONAL TRUST/EMMA WILLIAMS

DICEY: Launch of Trust's new game

County has a monopoly on board game

TAKE a chance, and you could end up as the owner of a stately pile in Kent – and could even be allowed to build houses and a hotel in the grounds.

But the unlikely planning permission is only possible because this is a new Monopoly board game from the National Trust.

Instead of Pall Mall on the classic board, players can snap up Chartwell and in place of Vine Street, there is Ightham Mote, while Sissinghurst Castle Garden has taken over the position of Trafalgar Square and finally Knole House has moved in on Coventry Street.

That means Kent has just over 20 per cent of the 22 available properties on the new board.

The National Trust version of the game is the first for a charity and will cost £25.

There have been many other versions of the game over the decades since it was first introduced, possibly in 1904, when a Quaker called Lizzie Phillips made up a game to explain the negative aspects of land taxing monopolies. It was called The Landlord Game.

The style of the game we know today didn't appear until 1935.

This latest version has 26 National Trust sites from across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and all sales of the game go back into supporting the conservation work carried out by the Trust.

Phoebe Vincent, the marketing manager at Winston Churchill's former home of Chartwell, said: "We may not be the new Mayfair, but we are very happy to be the new Pall Mall."

And Steven Dedman, property manager for Knole House in Sevenoaks said: "We are very pleased with our position – we deserved to be high up."

For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shop.

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Money-laundering gang jailed over drug cash

TWO men have been jailed for laundering more than £1 million of drug-linked cash.

Darren Quick, 43, of Oldfield Drive, Wouldham, was sentenced to seven-and-a-half years at Maidstone Crown Court on Wednesday.

He had pleaded guilty to three charges of possessing criminal property, transferring criminal money and laundering money, at a previous hearing on July 10.

Norrie Hyde, 40, of Oak Road, Sittingbourne, was jailed for two years after being found guilty of transferring criminal property after a trial last month.

A third member of the gang, Stephen Jarrett, 25, of Lee Heights, Bambridge Court, Maidstone, will be sentenced on November 4 after pleading guilty to transferring criminal property on March 4. During sentencing, the court heard Quick played a "pivotal part" in the money laundering racket and had notched up personal profits in the region of £2m, with available assets of about £350,000. Full investigations into his finances are ongoing.

Quick was arrested with Hyde and Jarrett in a pub car park in Maidstone in December, 2008, after police witnessed suspicious activity.

Quick's grey Ford Mondeo, Jarrett's blue Ford Mondeo and Hyde's Mercedes Vito van were then searched.

Officers found a blue box containing £126,070, plus a bag containing £66,960 in Quick's vehicle. Jarrett was carrying £4,000 in cash and two mobile phones, while Hyde had £300. Money seized from the defendants showed high traces of class A drugs, linking their crimes with drug dealing. Searches of the men's addresses revealed a wealthy lifestyle, with two BMWs on Quick's driveway alone.

JAILED: Quick pleaded guilty

Judge Caddick said: "The proceeds of the sale of drugs mean only custodial sentences can be justified.

"Money laundering is serious in its effect if connected to the supply of class A drugs and is only second behind the supply and sale of drugs. Without your services, dealing drugs would be less fruitful."

Proceeds of Crime Act proceedings are under way. Hyde was considered to be a courier, used to for moving large amounts of cash from drug deals about. He had been paid about £600,000 and had £250,000 in assets.

HYDE: Found guilty by jury

Kent Police have seized more than £320,000 in cash, and assets in the region of £2m, from the gang.

Det Sgt Rob Haines said: "Kent Police worked in conjunction with other agencies to investigate an extensive money-laundering network. Officers uncovered large sums of money being transferred through bank accounts and being moved.

"These sentences reflect the gravity of criminality concerned. We will pursue anyone involved in the supply and distribution of drugs and those who launder their money."

Cameron following Kent's training lead

EDUCATION chiefs at Kent County Council are claiming credit for a new Conservative strategy aimed at tackling unemployment, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Leader David Cameron announced at the party's conference on Monday that should the Tories be elected next year, they will place a greater emphasis on vocational training – something KCC has championed for years.

DAVID CAMERON

There are more than 5,500 Kent youngsters studying subjects at 25 industry-specific centres across the county, with a further 1,000 apprenticeships offered as part of the Kent Success scheme.

KCC chief Cllr Paul Carter said the authority's approach to education and training had now been adopted as part of Mr Cameron's Get Britain Working strategy.

He told Kent on Sunday: "It was announced at the conference that the Conservatives will launch at least 12 technology schools based on the belief that vocational education should start at the age of 14. KCC has been groundbreaking in that by way of providing good quality courses of the pupils' choice.

"We're making good progress with that and it's encouraging to see that recognised at a national level.

Trouble

"Unless we start creating engineers and scientists and regain a solid manufacturing base, we are going to be in trouble in the global economy.

"The sooner young people wake up, smell the coffee and take up a good quality education, the better. I'm proud that we have started to lead the way with this in Kent."

One of the men who helped shape the Get Britain Working strategy was shadow minister for welfare reform Lord Freud, who lives in Kent and has struck up a friendship with Cllr Carter.

KCC's approach to education has resulted in students' performance at age 16 improving year on year since 1995.

The county has also seen an 11 per cent reduction in the number of young people not in education, employment or training – compared with a 12.2 per cent increase in the South East.

However, the success of its grammar schools in particular has led to a situation where high-performing pupils from outside of Kent are travelling into the county and creating intense pressure for places. Cllr Carter has stated his desire for a new grammar school in west Kent, but such a development seems unlikely regardless of which party wins the next general election.

He said: "The Conservatives have said they will preserve existing grammars. We have enormous pressure on west Kent and I would hope we can find a solution to that problem by having some type of school that has a selective element to it.

"I think our results at GCSE prove a diverse range of good grammars and high schools are giving a better outcome than the bog-standard comprehensives."

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East Kent top for customer service in South East

SHOPPERS receive better customer service in east Kent than in any other region in the South East, according to a new report.

A study based on almost 140,000 mystery visits to stores throughout the UK revealed that the Canterbury postcode area – which also covers Thanet and parts of Dover and Shepway – scored a high satisfaction rating of 82.39 per cent.

However, other parts of Kent were not far behind as Medway scored 81.96 per cent, Dartford 81.71 per cent and Tonbridge 80.09 per cent.

Canterbury city centre co-ordinator Philippe Esclasse said he was not surprised by the results of the survey.

He said: "I think many people in Canterbury have tried very hard to improve their customer service through in-house training and communication between different retailers and caterers.

"We know people are very careful about how they spend their money, and because the last year has been so difficult it's quite visible that shop-owners have been trying harder.

"Canterbury is a city that receives about five million visitors a year, and we have to make sure a large proportion of these people return at some stage because this is our livelihood.

"Earlier this year we employed the services of a mystery shopping company to visit some of the smaller stores, which is something the larger ones do on a regular basis.

"We were extremely pleased with the results, and even those who didn't score so highly were given advice and are now doing much better."

Despite the CT postcode area receiving the highest score in the South East, it was still only ranked 28th out of 119 in the country.

London Eastern Central came top with 86.69 per cent, followed by Worcester (85.22 per cent) and Lincoln (84.81 per cent). Bottom of the pile was Carlisle with 65.98 per cent – almost 10 per cent below second-bottom Plymouth.

The research was carried out by the mystery shopping firm Retail Eyes to mark National Customer Service Week.

Chief executive Tim Ogle said: "Getting your customer service right is key to making money this season. Those who do stand the best chance of weathering the recession storm."

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THREATENED: New report says one pesticide is to blame for decline in bee numbers
Picture: KERRY KING

Government is urged to look at claims pesticide 'poisons' bees

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

WILDLIFE campaigners have called for the Government to investigate claims a pesticide is to blame for the county's dwindling bee population.

Last year Kent's bee-keepers witnessed as much as a 50 per cent drop in the amount of honey being produced, with some suggesting the insects could be wiped out by disease within a decade.

However, a new report by the conservation trust Buglife suggests the removal of one pesticide – the neonicotinoid imidacloprid – could halt the decline and help ensure the security of Britain's food supply.

Wildlife conservationist Kerry King, from Hythe, is one of many calling on the Government to fund new research into the claims.

He said: "It will cripple our country if we lose our honeybees because the lack of pollination will have a huge effect on our food chain.

"Bees are unsung heroes and do more for us than any other insect, so if the Buglife report is to be believed – and there is no reason why it shouldn't be – then this pesticide must be banned.

"This is going to end up as a massive problem, not just for us but the whole of Europe. We can't afford to bury our heads in the sand and hope it will go away."

A third of all foodstuffs are dependant on pollination by honey bees, which also provide more than 50 per cent of the pollination of wild plants that the majority of other wildlife depends on.

According to Buglife, the pesticide in question – produced by the German firm Bayer – spreads a chemical throughout plants and into the nectar and pollen that bees and other insects then eat.

The authors of the report say they are confident there is scientific evidence to prove that this causes bees to forage less and produce fewer offspring.

However, the Government's current stance is that there is no evidence of an unacceptable risk to bees from the neonicotinoids.

Mr King said: "I think if the Government feels it can't rely upon Buglife's report then it needs to put aside a budget and instruct its own experts to prove or disprove the claims.

"The declining bee population is more devastating to this country than unemployment because we don't want to have to rely on importing in food from elsewhere."

Meanwhile, a new documentary entitled Vanishing of the Bees – narrated by British actress Emilia Fox – is due to be released next month. The 90-minute movie is part of The Co-operative's Plan Bee project, which is also calling for the Government to investigate the declining population.

Its website reads: "As the film outlines, there are numerous theories as to why the honeybee population has declined so alarmingly in recent years.

"But we believe the role played by pesticides – and in particular the use of neonicotinoids – should be investigated urgently."

Open-air success inspires actor to put on film show for Christmas

TIMELESS classics will return to the big screen this Christmas thanks to the success of an open-air cinema venture, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Movies like ET, The Wizard of Oz and It's A Wonderful Life will be resurrected as part of actor George Wood's The Screen on the Green project, which received rave reviews this summer when audiences flocked to some of Kent's best-loved locations.

The festive line-up – which will also include Mary Poppins, and the original Star Wars trilogy – will be shown exclusively at the Marlowe Theatre's new covered arena in Canterbury.

Former West End star George, 27, told Kent on Sunday he hoped it would prove as popular as its predecessor.

He said: "It's quite a different set-up, but it's the first time the area has ever had a festive cinema and it's obviously a good time of year to go because in the summer people want to be outside doing things. We're going to be using a massive eight by six-metre screen so it's going to be a great quality visual experience more than anything else."

A former history student at the University of Manchester, George grew up in a family of entertainers and went on to star in the West End musical Oliver!, as well as become a presenter of the 1990s children's television show The Disney Club.

He turned his attention to open-air cinema after breaking his leg in a scooter accident, and the first season of The Screen on the Green proved a huge success with its mix of classic films and beautiful locations.

For instance, Ridley Scott's Gladiator was shown at Richborough Roman Fort while Edward Scissorhands was made to feel at home among the hedgerows at Walmer Castle in Deal.

George said: "It was brilliant. I was hoping it would be a big success, but it just exceeded all my expectations.

"I had people coming out and telling me it was the best night they'd had in years, and I told them they needed to get out more. But a lot of work went into organising it all so it's been so rewarding to get this level of support.

"All the venues involved have asked for more of the same next year."

Check www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk and www.thescreenonthegreen.com for dates and screen times.

BRAINCHILD: George Wood's open-air cinema was a huge hit

CLASSIC: The Wizard of Oz will be shown

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'If Bobby can go straight,

As part of our behind-the-scenes look at the work of Kent Police, JANE BARLOW speaks with former armed robber Bobby Cummines, who has turned his life around. He talks about the positive work of our police force and how his own life has changed

HAVING spent his teenage years in a young offenders' institution and 13 years in an adult prison, you might not expect Bobby Cummines to be an advocate of the police.

He was the youngest person in Britain to be convicted for possession of a sawn-off shotgun, he was locked up for a series of armed robberies and at one point was described by the national media as the country's most dangerous prisoner after taking a governor hostage and inciting prison riots.

But a supporter of the police he is – after a conversation with an officer resulted in him turning his life around, and also because of the work being done by Kent Police.

Today, Bobby's life as a gangster is behind him. He now runs a charity for reformed offenders in Snodland and is a House of Commons advisor on crime and prisons. He has recently been invited to a Buckingham Palace garden party, and he was at 10 Downing Street with the Open University, with which he studied during his sentence, as it celebrated its 40th anniversary.

Mr Cummines said: "The officer who arrested me for the robberies came to see me after I'd been sentenced. He said I had a good brain and why didn't I use it for business instead of crime. The judge had said a similar thing and I thought about it the whole way through my sentence. Later, the same thing was said to me by a prison education officer and a probation officer, so I started studying. I was in solitary confinement a lot of the time, so I read."

Mr Cummines studied psychology, sociology, economics, politics and housing and went on to get a degree. He got a job with a housing association and later became a volunteer with the probation service. He married a prison librarian and a few years later had a daughter.

But with a criminal record in tow, getting his first job was not easy – which is why he helped set up the charity Unlock.

Alongside this he also teams up with Kent Police and youth workers to run sessions for youngsters to urge them against getting involved with crime.

Scared

Kent Police officer PC Paul Richardson, a safer school partnership co-ordinator in Maidstone, said: "Bobby has helped with a course for children who were thought likely to be excluded from school or to become involved in crime. He talks about his experiences and the damage a criminal record can have.

"Preventing youngsters getting involved in trouble is beneficial to the whole community."

Although Mr Cummines had been involved in gang violence, been shot and shot at other people, talking to schoolchildren scared him.

He said: "I heard about police in Kent organising discos for children to get them off the streets and I though that was great. I thought if they can do something, so can I. But I knew prisons, I didn't know anything about kids."

SUPPORT: Bobby Cummines wants to save children from the experiences he had

However, it didn't take long for Mr Cummines to get the hang of it and he is thrilled when teachers tell him that months after one of his talks pupils are still walking around quoting his two catch phrases – "mugs take drugs" and "fools carry tools".

Mr Cummines said: "I've seen the reality of prison and I don't want that for any kid."

He also has involvement with two community police officers in Snodland High Street.

He said: "They come to me and say they have a kid who is going off the rails and have I got any ideas. The officers are part of the community. They find problems and they find solutions. Here in Kent we have a police force we can be proud of. But people need to remember that crime isn't a police problem – it is a problem for us as a society and to reduce it we all need to work together."

Going straight

Mr Cummines is full of praise for Kent Police: "They are pro-active in preventing crime. They get involved before there is a problem, rather than picking up the pieces afterwards.

"I'm all for their neighbourhood policing. Community officers show young people and parents that they are human and approachable. When people see officers out and about on the streets it takes away the fear of crime."

The next chapter in Mr Cummines' life is a second marriage and a teenage stepson. He also plans to continue the work of Unlock, which initially focused on raising the profile of the needs and views of ex-offenders but has developed into a charity to provide practical support and advice for people going straight.

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so can you'

Through our A Safer Kent Campaign we offered readers the chance to put their questions to our Chief Constable Michael Fuller. Here is the second set of answers following on from last week. See all of his answers at www.kentnews.co.uk

How come Kent Police cannot afford its own helicopter and we always have to use the Essex force's one?

James Parnell, Westgate-on-Sea

In the past we have relied on a policy of assistance from other forces when we have needed to use a helicopter, but increasing costs and reduced availability meant we had to examine a new way of providing air support.

To run our own dedicated service would cost at least £8 million to set up, and take two years before it was fully implemented. Working with Essex meant we could do this immediately and without having to put in a big initial investment.

The joint working with Essex has meant the use of the helicopter in Kent has increased by 700 per cent compared to the previous arrangement.

What police safety procedures are in place at Manston airport in the event of a crash on the water supply?

D Amrong, Ramsgate

Air travel is one of the safest forms of transport both for passengers and for freight.

Before an airport is licensed its management have to meet very high safety standards, and their ability to provide these is regularly checked.

Kent Police are identified as the lead emergency service and have officers who have specific areas of expertise that enable them to deal with any crisis. Our preparations are built around regular exercises with other emergency services and agencies which test those plans to the limit. As part of that we do prepare for the crash of an aircraft and contamination of nearby water supplies.

The critical role is knowing what to do immediately after any disaster, and the rigorous and repeated testing of our plans means I am confident we can deal with this and other possibilities. We also have the ability to call on extra resources both nationally and internationally if they are needed.

How has the transformation of the Stanhope estate in Ashford had an impact on crime figures? And if those figures have dropped, how important is tackling the core living conditions of people in terms of fighting criminal behaviour?

Sue Baker, Ashford

Major work to regenerate this area has taken place in the last few years and part of the task has been to reduce crime.

Through the efforts of police community support officers, neighbourhood wardens and two dedicated police officers with responsibility for Stanhope ward we have reduced criminal damage and antisocial behaviour by 16 per cent in the year 2008-09.

This does not mean we are reducing the effort we dedicate to the area, but we need the continued support of people who take a pride in their community, in reporting crime to us. If people report incidents the police and council can target those who may try to destroy the good work that has been done in transforming Stanhope.

What is Kent Police's child protection policy and what lessons have Kent Police learned as a result of the Baby P case?

Celia Wilkinson, Tunbridge Wells

The key objective of our child protection policy is to safeguard children and investigate child abuse and neglect.

Lord Laming's report in 2003 into the tragic death of Victoria Climbie resulted in a number of significant changes in the way in which child abuse is managed.

In April, 2004, Kent Police Child Abuse Investigation Units were re-structured, staffing levels significantly increased and a substantial amount of money invested. Last year Kent Police Authority added £750,000 to provide an increased number of officers to manage and monitor offenders.

Child Abuse Investigation Units within Kent Police are dedicated solely to the role of investigating child abuse, and are run by highly trained investigators who are specialists in the field of identifying offences committed against children.

The force has established a Public Protection Unit, based at our headquarters, which is responsible for protecting vulnerable people.

We also work closely with key partners and other agencies. In many cases it is only when information from a range of sources is put together that risk to children can be identified and properly assessed.

Lord Laming's latest report, following the death of Baby Peter, outlines 58 recommendations across all statutory agencies – 13 of these relate to the police service.

In Kent we are in a strong position to take forward all the recommendations made by Lord Laming. My chief officer team, and the Police Authority, have identified this as a key priority.

How may murders in the last 10 years, in Kent, remain unsolved?

ofifrin@aol.com

More than 93 per cent of murders that occurred in Kent in the past 10 years have been solved. There are currently 10 where, so far, no-one has been successfully prosecuted.

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*Oliver Heath will not be presenting the 7.00pm show.

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Euro chiefs fail to take bait over fishing policy

Ruling could spell disaster for recreational anglers

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

FISHERMEN have admitted defeat in their battle against planned EU legislation that could decimate the recreational sea-angling industry.

Kent's boat charter companies, tackle shops and other related businesses fear financial ruin if they are forced to abide by the same strict quotas proposed for commercial fishermen throughout the Continent.

The European Anglers Alliance (EAA) – which includes the UK-based Angling Trust – has spent more than eight months attempting to convince the European Commission to delete Article 47 of the Common Fisheries Policy, but its appeals have fallen on deaf ears.

Should the EU's Council of Ministers accept the policy later this year without acknowledging the Alliance's concerns, then sea anglers throughout Europe may find themselves having to count and record everything they catch.

Frustrating

Those figures would then count against the UK's fishing quota allowance.

Angling Trust campaigner Leon Roskilly, from Rainham, said: "There are people in some countries on the Continent that use large nets to catch fish, and we had hoped to get the Commission to recognise the difference between that and recreational angling and bring in a more appropriate regulation.

"Unfortunately we've failed in that. It's frustrating because there are no great problems that need to be addressed with recreational sea angling. We've just been scooped up in it all.

"The Commission just doesn't have the information or the data down to the level it needs to understand the vast differences in the fishing sectors."

Due to its failure to get Article 47 amended, the EAA has now lodged an official objection and called for the Council of Ministers to delete it entirely.

Among the reasons given are that controlling recreational fisheries is not justified by any factual evidence, and that member states are not able to control tens of thousands of boats and millions of anglers.

A decision could be made as early as next month, with the new policy introduced on January 1.

South East Tory MEP, Daniel Hannan, who is a member of the European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries, said: "We tried but failed to delete Article 47.

"It was a long, hard, gruelling war of attrition but we were overwhelmed. What would be much better would be if the UK was to opt out of the Common Fisheries Policy altogether.

"To do that would mean us looking more closely at us being a member of the EU, which is something I am in favour of anyway."

CATCH: Fish landed by recreational anglers will have to count against quotas set by the European Union

WIN a ghostly day out for the whole family

ENJOY some chilling Halloween magic this half term.

The gates at Chessington World of Adventures and Zoo will creak open for Halloween Hocus Pocus from October 23 to November 1 to reveal plenty of spooky goings-on.

Test your nerve with the brand new Black Forest Haunt, an interactive walk through adventure. Or challenge yourself to take the walk without screaming or laughing, depending on how brave you are.

But be warned – scaredy cats had better take someone with them to cling on to.

Guests can ride hair-raising rollercoasters, including Vampire and Dragon's Fury into the night, and get up close

and personal with the zoo's spiders, snakes and glow-in-the-dark scorpions. With exciting rides and animals, action-packed shows and our very own aquarium, Chessington is a whole World of Adventures… all in one place.

KOS Media has teamed up with Chessington World of Adventures to give away four family tickets.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Hocus Pocus Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is October 15, 2009.

Question: When are the gates creaking opening for Halloween Hocus Pocus?

No purchase necessary. For full terms and conditions visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

A family ticket is four day-tickets that can be used for an adult or child for one day's entrance to the park.

Tickets are valid until November 2, 2009. Please check operating times and dates before visiting. Tickets are non-refundable and no cash alternative will be given.

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Brothers make tasty new move

THE old working class favourite of pie and mash is as popular as ever, and to prove it one of Britain's best-known producers has moved to new premises in Kent, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Goddard's Pies Ltd has been around since 1890, and the brothers who run the family business have set up a new base in Sevenoaks.

The company is run by Jeff and Kane Goddard.

Jeff said: "All our pies are hand-made fresh using the very best ingredients. The move from Greenwich to Sevenoaks is extremely important to us – it means we can keep on with our expansion plans.

"It will be a hub where we can base everything and maintain the quality we are known for."

It is one of the oldest pie and mash businesses in the UK and prides itself on the quality of its products.

Jeff said: "Everything we do is made from scratch, that means all the pastry, all the fillings. Our whole ethos is that it is hand produced. It is not machine pressed."

A family business through and through, Jeff said: "We need to move with the times and the extra capacity will enable us to do so.

"Now is the time to expand to the next level, pie and mash is still as popular as ever and we will be serving the same top quality pie and mash that we are so well known for."

PRIDE IN QUALITY: Jeff Goddard serves a hungry customer

Goddard's Pies offers a pie and mash home delivery service alongside an outside catering division that serves pie and mash at private parties, weddings, office or other functions.

Jeff said they cater for any number of guests and offer menu options that can include jellied or stewed eels.

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Instant millionaires from Kent at National Lottery's 15th anniversary celebration

It *was* us – and it changed our lives forever overnight

MILLIONAIRES from Kent thanked their lucky stars in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the National Lottery, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Since the first live draw was made in the middle of Noel's House Party in 1994, there have been 600 jackpot winners in the South East alone and more than £1.1 billion paid out in prize money.

Bexley residents Arthur and Jackie Wright scooped £2.9 million in February last year, and were among scores of winners who attended the lottery's birthday party in Brighton this week.

A former process operator at healthcare company GlaxoSmithKline, Mr Wright told KOS Media the windfall came at just the right time.

He said: "We were just about making ends meet, so we really are grateful that we can now lead a debt-free life.

"I didn't believe someone like me could ever win the lottery, but it just goes to show it can happen to anyone.

"I was working 12-hour days and 12-hour nights, so one of the first things I did was become a full-time dad.

"I can't speak for other winners, but I think having struggled in the past does make you appreciate it a lot more. Although I'd love to go out and buy a sports car, we're not going to waste the money because we want to continue to live a comfortable life. We've had good times in the past and difficult times, too. But now there will hopefully be a lot more of the good times."

The South East is home to just over 250 lottery millionaires, with the Medway postcode area – which includes parts of Swale and Maidstone – the luckiest in the UK.

According to the National Lottery, Medway punters have raked in more than £94m since the balls started rolling, with one in every 5,717 eligible residents having scooped a prize.

However, Mr Wright revealed becoming an overnight millionaire can have its problems.

He said: "Unfortunately, my two younger boys went to school the next day and told everyone we'd won, so I didn't have a lot of choice in going public. Some distant members of our family have become very bitter and twisted about it because they seem to think they're all entitled to some.

"We've helped out our nearest and dearest, but we're being very careful with our money."

Monday's celebration at Brighton's Grand Hotel was also attended by former Met Police officer Tony Stubley, 44, from Chatham, and Dartford pensioners Ted and Marilyn Newton.

The Newtons were part of a five-strong syndicate that scooped £7.9m in July last year, while Mr Stubley picked up a cheque for £2.2m in August, 2004.

"I was on my way to work when I found out I'd won," he said. "So I got straight back on the train and went home again. I was based in Peckham at the time and it's not a very nice area at all, so I was glad to get out.

"Winning the lottery is a surreal experience. Some days you're glad you've got all that money and other days you're not, but the good days far outweigh the bad."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

FACT FILE

The National Lottery

- The luckiest, most frequently drawn, ball is number 38
- Spookily, the unluckiest is number 13
- A new car is the first purchase for 36 per cent of jackpot winners
- Scottish mum Angela Kelly holds the record for the largest jackpot ever won, at £35.4 million
- Construction workers have won more jackpots than any other profession
- Both Medway and Dartford are in the top 10 for the luckiest places to buy a lottery ticket

WINNING SMILE: Lottery winners Jackie and Arthur Wright, from Bexley, at the Grand Hotel. They won £2.9m last year

LUCKY DAY: Ted and Marilyn Newton, from Dartford, during the 15th anniversary lottery winners' gathering in Brighton

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Making a difference

A HUMANITARIAN hopes to help change the lives of children in poverty-stricken areas of East Africa after winning £45,000 of charity funding.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

Rebecca Webb, from Gillingham, will spend a year promoting the benefits of education in Uganda and Kenya after beating more than 1,000 other applicants for a spot on the World of Difference international programme.

The 28-year-old will use the cash to cover her salary and expenses while working with the Build Africa charity, which aims to help young people living in rural areas escape poverty through education and enterprise.

Kilimanjaro

She said: "It's our responsibility to try to help those less fortunate than ourselves and I think everyone should do their bit.

"We are lucky to live in such a wealthy country and people take that for granted sometimes.

"A group of us climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania in 2005 and managed to raise £75,000 for the National Autistic Society.

"Going to Africa just made me really want to make a difference and help out. To be given the opportunity to work for a year with my chosen charity is just amazing. I love charity work and I love fundraising."

The World of Difference scheme is funded by the Vodafone Foundation – the charitable arm of the mobile telephone firm.

During Rebecca's year away she plans to develop the infrastructure of a new school, increase parental involvement, improve the standards of teaching and learning, and assist and strengthen the school management.

She also wants to help raise awareness of HIV/Aids.

Rebecca said: "I believe a good education should be available to everyone and to be able to spend all my time helping a good cause is going to be brilliant."

The foundation is also offering 500 people the chance to take a two-month work experience placement with a charity of their choice, which will receive £2,500 in return. Successful applicants will also receive a new mobile phone.

Visit www.vodafone.co.uk/worldofdifference and fill out an application form before Tuesday, November 3.

Rebecca Webb

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From little ships a great rescue grew

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

PRIVATE boat-owners who helped rescue 338,000 soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk will be celebrated in a new documentary.

Next year the BBC will mark the 70th anniversary of one of the most important operations of World War Two by screening Little Ships – an hour-long programme dedicated to the hundreds of fishing vessels, pleasure crafts and paddle steamers that aided the evacuation.

The documentary will be presented by historian Dan Snow, son of legendary Channel 4 newsreader Peter.

Producer-director Linda Sands is now appealing for anyone involved in the rescue mission to get in touch with a view to being interviewed for the show.

She said: "This is one of the last times we will be able to hear the testimonies from these soldiers and boat-owners because so few of them are left now. It's important to remember what these people did for us."

Operation Dynamo was launched on May 26, 1940, when the Nazis had more than 338,000 British and French soldiers pegged back on the beaches of Dunkirk.

Then-Prime Minister Winston Churchill feared the worst until the British Admiralty appealed for all private boat owners to assist the Navy in its rescue mission by giving up their vessels.

But many insisted on personally doing their bit for the war effort by taking charge of their own boats and travelling across the Channel from Ramsgate.

Mrs Sands said: "I think Churchill gave a certain amount of spin to the media in saying Britain was on the verge of a massive defeat to the Nazis, but the fact it helped rescue 338,000 soldiers was absolutely amazing.

RESCUERS: Historian Dan Snow, inset, has been talking to veterans about the little ships

"The people needed something positive to cling onto. They knew it was propaganda but they didn't mind because they all wanted to pitch in together and do their bit. It was a different time back then.

"I wonder if the Government of today asked for 1,000 private pilots to fly over to Afghanistan to rescue our troops, how many would actually do so?"

About 40 of the little ships of Dunkirk that are still seaworthy will repeat the voyage next year to mark the 70th anniversary.

Dan Snow, who is the resident historian on BBC's The One Show, will speak to some of the current owners of the vessels for the documentary.

Mrs Sands said: "A lot of the boats are very old and need a lot of work, but they're a real labour of love. One guy even bought a boat for £1 but now needs to raise £30,000 to get it up and running. He's a real history buff and the previous owner sold it to him because he wanted somebody who understood what an important role it played in the war."

• ***Did you own one of the little ships of Dunkirk, or were you involved in the rescue operation itself? If so, call Linda Sands on 02890 338270.***

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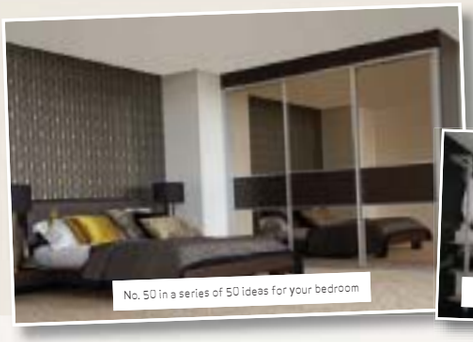
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MP has 'no respect' for Emin's tax moan

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A LABOUR MP has launched a withering attack on controversial artist Tracey Emin after she threatened to become a tax exile.

Margate born and raised, Emin shocked the art world with her displays like an unmade bed, and a tent embroidered with the name of everyone she had ever slept with.

But now she has bitterly attacked Gordon Brown's plan to introduce a 50 per cent income tax on Britain's rich and famous.

One of the best known leaders of the Britart movement, she is threatening to move full time to her home in France to escape the high tax bracket.

Her outburst has angered Labour MP Steve Ladyman, the member for South Thanet, who said he has lost all respect for her.

If Emin leaves Britain, she will follow a long line of sports and music stars who have become tax exiles. Many, such as Formula One heroes like David Coulthard and Lewis Hamilton, have homes in Monaco.

But Emin, 46, said she is livid with the new tax bracket for those who earn over £150,000, or just over £400 a day. The 50 per cent tax would cut that and force people to live on 'just' £210 a day. It comes into force next April.

ANGRY: Tracey Emin has been criticised by MP Steve Ladyman for her outburst against a new tax plan proposed for high earners

She said she is "very seriously considering leaving Britain", adding: "I'm simply not willing to pay tax at 50 per cent."

She added that the French make the artist much more welcome than the British.

Emin said: "The French have lower tax rates and they appreciate arts and culture."

France has a top tax rate of 40 per cent, plus a wealth tax of just over half a per cent for those with assets of more than £723,000. But artists are granted more subsidies.

Emin continued to lay into life in Britain and said: "The taxes are too high, there aren't enough incentives to work hard, and our politicians have put me off."

Of the new tax, she said: "I reckon it would mean me paying about 65p in every pound with tax, National Insurance and so on."

Some experts believe around 25,000 people are considering fleeing the UK shores to avoid the tax. The Treasury says it could raise as much £2.5 billion a year by 2011-12.

Emin's attack continued: "This Labour government has had no understanding for the arts. At least in France their politicians have always understood the importance of culture and they have traditionally helped out artists with subsidy and some tax advantages.

"We simply have what I call 'ambition politicians' who go from one department to another for career reasons."

Dr Ladyman was dismayed at the attack from the artist, and lambasted her for the outspoken comments.

He said: "It's amazing isn't it?

"People like Emin are forever preaching to us that the Government doesn't spend enough on the arts and all the other worthy 'celebrity' causes but as soon as the tax bill drops through their door then it's 'I'm off to where the grass is greener'.

"I'm afraid I've lost all respect for Ms Emin after this comment."

Emin will be at the Frieze art fair in London this week and will reportedly offer to design and make personalised neon signs for up to 10 buyers each willing to pay £65,000. If this happens the works will make her £650,000, or £325,000 after the new tax.

Last week Conservative Party leader David Cameron said he would like to have his portrait painted by Emin.

Card skimming device found on cash machine

POLICE have warned against using cash-point machines after a 'card skimming' device was found on a bank ATM machine.

The discovery was made at Barclays Bank in The Square, Sevenoaks, on Saturday, October 3, just before 6pm.

Two men acting suspiciously near the machine ran off when they saw police approaching them.

The officers discovered a camera device attached to the machine and at least two people whose cards may have been compromised. Police are still hunting the two men who ran off.

Be inspired by a sporting hero

HORSE rider Simon Laurens, winner of silver and team gold dressage medals at the 2008 Paralympics, is coming to Kent to talk about his achievements and his battle with multiple sclerosis.

The Paralympic hero will be talking at the MS Society's Regional Conference and anyone affected by MS is invited to attend.

The event is on Sunday, November 1, at Ashford International Hotel and volunteers from the Kent region and Kent branches of the MS Society will be available to answer questions and provide information on the disabling neurological condition affecting young adults.

Attendance is free, but places must be booked by October 16, to book visit www.mssociety.org.uk/kent, or call Gill Purnell on 0208 438 0863.

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CHRIS BRITCHER
CAMPAIGN EDITOR
chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk

A new buzzword is coming into season

PAT CRAWFORD from Hadlow College reiterates a key point in our campaign – and how buying locally-produced food and drink has a direct benefit to YOUR local community and economy.

Every now and then some media commentator carries out a survey investigating the current most popular buzz-words.

Were such a survey to be carried out now, there is little doubt that the word 'local' would feature high on the list.

Used as an adjective and applied to fruit and vegetables, it is a highly emotive term that conjures up all sorts of things that are 'good'. Surely it's 'good' to have fruit that hasn't built up huge air miles en route to retailers' shelves? Isn't it 'good' to know the food we put on our plates has spin-offs for the British economy in the way in which it helps to create jobs? Surely it's 'good' to know every regionally produced apple we eat helps to keep the Kent countryside the stunningly mixed landscape for which it is rightly renowned?

In just a matter of weeks, those who advocate buying regionally produced food will have some big decisions to make.

We are coming to the end of the season – and the variety and quantities of UK-produced salads, fruit and vegetables will reduce accordingly. Despite modern growing techniques and the use of polytunnels and other means of dealing with variable weather, the ranges of crops that can be produced in the coming months are much more limited. Surely we need another buzz-word? 'Seasonal'.

It's a fact that we now have a generation of young cooks who have little or no idea what 'seasonal' actually means. Why should they, having been brought up at a time when just about every type of fruit and vegetable is available to us all-year-round? Celebrity chefs such as Jamie Oliver, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Gordon Ramsay are extolling the virtues of using in-season ingredients. (By this they mean, of course, those that have been grown in this country).

The chefs are coming up with great dishes that prove the versatility of genuinely seasonal produce. With winter approaching, we should be majoring on root vegetables – and, hopefully, the avidly-watched TV chefs will soon be proving that 'boring' such vegetables most definitely are not.

Hadlow College already makes a substantial contribution to 'seasonal' produce.

The college is a joint venture owner (with Kent County Council) of Produced in Kent, the marketing organisation that is making real strides in promoting Kent produce.

The college's Broadview Tearoom – current holder of the south-east region Rural Enterprise Award – makes almost exclusive use of regionally produced, seasonally available fresh ingredients. Healthy eating is a priority in the student refectory too – and the menu there always includes fresh, seasonally available salads, vegetables and fruit.

But, according to Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, the college's director of finance and resources, important as these contributions are, they're insufficient – and he wants to do more.

Originally from the City, Mark is totally and passionately converted to the promotion of the rural sector as a whole – and our farmers and growers in particular. With this in mind, he is setting about devising a campaign that will embrace many of the issues currently undermining awareness and understanding of what we can grow and produce in this country – and how and when we're able to do it.

The more information we have, the greater the awareness – and, hopefully, the bigger the benefits for the rural sector.

Challenging our children to be more creative

YOUNGSTERS can dazzle with their culinary skills as the hunt for the Kent Young Chef gets under way.

Open to all young people who either live or attend school in the county, and are in year groups 7-11, the competition is organised by Produced in Kent.

The Kent Young Chef Award challenges entrants to write an original main dish recipe with, crucially, the key ingredients grown or reared in Kent and widely available this autumn.

Julie Monkman, manager at Produced in Kent, said: "Kent has a long and richly stocked coastline with fish and seafood, a tremendous reputation for locally reared meat and game and is well known as the Garden of England – bursting with autumnal fruit and vegetables.

"I believe young people will have great fun discovering what is grown and reared in Kent and selecting ingredients which are seasonal between September and November, as they write their original recipe ideas."

The competition will culminate with a live final in front of BBC Ready Steady Cook chef and star judge Richard Phillips, pictured, at catering school Thanet College on November 27.

Mr Phillips has endorsed our campaign this year and regularly takes delivery of supplies direct from www.Foodforkent.co.uk to his string of Kent restaurants.

He said: "I am sure we are going to have some very high quality entries to decide on and who knows we may even find a future star chef of tomorrow."

Full entry details are on www.producedinkent.co.uk. Closing date for entries is October 30.

foodforkent.co.uk We are committed to adding more local suppliers to our online service and any local business or producer that wishes to join our campaign should contact us at foodforkent.co.uk or email us at feedback@kosmedia.co.uk

Grieving mum films TV ad to fight cocaine threat to kids

A DISTRAUGHT mother whose daughter died after taking cocaine on a night out has featured in a hard-hitting advert on ITV to warn others about the dangers of recreational drugs, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Angela Pett, 46, from Gravesend, said she hopes it will prevent other families from suffering the same heartbreak she and her husband Ian, 48, and son Joe, 23, felt when 20-year-old Haniska died last October.

The young hairdresser was rushed to hospital after taking cocaine during an evening out with friends, but died just seven hours after ingesting the lethal concoction.

Tests found the drug had been cut with worming tablets normally used on cows, ecstasy and amphetamines. It contained just five per cent cocaine.

Determined

Angela, with the help of Kent Police, has now launched a campaign to stop others killing themselves with the drug.

The advert, made by Kent-based Southside TV, is the first step in her battle against "parasite" drug dealers.

Angela said: "This is really important to me. Nothing can bring Haniska back. I will never hold her again, never give her a cuddle or see her smile.

"We have been through agony and I don't want any other family to suffer in this way."

Angela admitted to Kent on Sunday that filming the advert was very emotional, but that it was something that needed to be done.

"It was very difficult. I thought I'd be strong, but there were tears," she said.

VICTIM: Angela Pett's daughter Haniska, 20, died after taking cocaine on a night out

"I felt that by doing the advert myself – as a parent who has lost a child – it would have more effect than a police officer doing it.

"People need to be warned about the dangers of cocaine, they need to realise they could kill themselves by taking it."

Ad director Martin Smith said: "Although she was tearful as she remembered what had happened to Haniska, she was determined that her story must be told."

Angela first launched her campaign in the hope she could go to Kent schools to educate youngsters about the detrimental effect drugs can have on a person and their family.

Since it began, Gravesend Grammar School for Boys has invited her to talk to pupils.

Kent Police have seized more than £1 million of cocaine from the county's streets in the last 18 months.

Government spending cuts threaten epilepsy sufferers

EPILEPSY patients have voiced their anger at Government plans to cut spending on anti-seizure drugs, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Sufferers are currently prescribed individual medication depending on how seriously they are affected, but from January pharmacists will be forced to buy only the cheapest drugs in an effort to cut costs.

Opponents say the move will mean patients having to give up driving and certain jobs due to the increased risk of seizures.

Roger Kendall is a trustee of the Herne Bay-based charity Epilepsy HERE (Help, Education and Research for Epilepsy).

He said: "Any change to a prescription can affect people with epilepsy very seriously.

"It's very difficult to judge the effect of a particular medication on an individual sufferer, but once you finally have control over your seizures any slight change to the brand or dosage can bring them back again.

"Up to 1,000 people die every year as a result of seizures, so this isn't a trivial complaint. We're trying to pressure the Government into changing its mind and I can see no reason why it shouldn't."

Under the Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme, pharmacists will be expected to automatically substitute a branded drug with a cheaper version, regardless of what is stated on a prescription.

The national charity Epilepsy Action estimates the proposals could affect as many as 50,000 people with epilepsy in the UK.

Deputy chief executive Simon Wigglesworth said: "There is significant evidence to indicate that people may experience difficulties when switching between versions of anti-epileptic drugs.

"Any financial gain from this scheme cannot be justified, given the potential risks to people with epilepsy. We are not convinced there will be any cost saving."

A Department of Health official said it was refining its proposals, with formal consultation due to begin later this autumn.

He added: "Generic substitution forms an integral part of the scheme, which aims to ensure we have fair prices that give value for money to the taxpayer as well as a fair return for the industry.

"Currently there is nothing to prevent the prescribing of a particular generic or brand of drug if the prescriber considers it essential. Our proposals for implementation of generic substitution will maintain this position."

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Games would be a perfect legacy

DAME Kelly Holmes' vision of a Schools Olympics involving young people and disabled youngsters from around the country must transcend party politics.

Whether we end up with a Conservative or Labour government after the next general election, creating an inclusive national sports competition would be a great legacy of the 2012 London Olympics.

The double Olympic gold medallist from Tonbridge based her idea on the Kent School Games, a biannual event involving 30,000 young people across the county. Why not extend it nationally and hold the finals in the east London Olympic stadium?

As Dame Kelly said, we need to ensure the country continues to be excited about competitive sport long after the show is over.

It is hard to see any politician or person who cares about the health of young people being against the idea of a Schools Olympics.

Obviously not every youngster will make the finals, but it will make schools strive to get the best out of all their pupils.

The School Games have been a great success in Kent; let's hope that can be repeated nationally in the near future.

It's not over yet

ENVIRONMENTAL campaigners celebrating after energy giant E.ON delayed plans for a new coal-fired power plant at Kingsnorth may be in for a surprise.

It seems far from clear whether the proposals are as dead as they all think.

OPINION: Awareness critical to success

Graham Gibbens stresses the importance behind good mental health care

DID you know that one in four people will experience some kind of mental health difficulty in their lifetime?

Yesterday was World Mental Health Day. It is true that awareness days pop up all over the place, but I believe this one is especially important because mental health is something that has an impact on many people, in every corner of the county and from every walk of life.

Having a day dedicated to raising awareness is a great way to raise the profile of some of the imaginative work being done in Kent. This includes things like art and exercise on prescription, which is available through the National Health Service – an approach that can be every bit as effective as tablets.

Getting out and about can also help people feel less isolated, which is something that fuels depression, and exercise releases chemicals in the brain that make you feel better.

It's this kind of approach that I know can change the way we respond to mental health.

Recently I went to Whitstable to see A Place at the Table, an exhibition at the Somerset Maugham Gallery and organised by Canterbury Mind the Gap.

I also visited a presentation of the History of Mental Health. Both these events are doing the vital job of telling people about the reality of mental health.

I hope that events taking place around World Mental Health Day will grasp another important opportunity – the chance to tackle the problems of stigma head on. We know that many people feel uncertain, or even frightened, when they face something they don't understand.

There is a lot that people don't understand about mental health.

The result is that often people with mental health problems find they are treated differently. It is unacceptable that people are seen as weak or picked on because they are not in good health.

It doesn't matter whether we're talking about low-level anxiety or depression, or something more complex – understanding it and accepting people who are suffering is the only way forward.

Perhaps one measure of the success of World Mental Health Day will be in seeing more people come to understand the importance of good mental health and the need to support those who are facing problems.

The inspiring thing about raising awareness is that it brings to our attention how much excellent work is already being done by people who are passionate about getting people the right care.

The way that care and support is done is changing all the time.

This is partly because the people who get that care are invited to tell us how we could do it better. It is also because we never assume that we've got all the answers.

There is a determination to get better at prevention, making sure that people can get the right support locally, when they are first aware of a problem, rather than waiting until the problem gets worse. People can refer themselves for psychological therapy and don't have to go through their GP, and a lot of the other primary care provided by the health service can be crucial to tackling mental health early on.

I'm proud of the work that Kent County Council does to help people who need long-term support, such as residential care and help for carers.

Employment support plays a part, too – helping those who want to get back to work and those who want to keep their job while facing mental health problems.

There are also informal day services, advocacy services to make sure voices are heard, and the all-important forums that give those who use mental health services a chance to say how they could be better.

All the work that is done by the county council is only valuable, however, because of the way all the organisations work together.

Sometimes the organisations work together so closely that it can be hard to tell where one stops and another starts. This closeness makes us all more effective – from the county, district and borough councils to the primary care trusts, voluntary and community organisations and the Kent and Medway mental health partnership trust.

One thing I am sure of is that we will keep on listening and looking carefully at what we do and how we do it.

• ***Councillor Graham Gibbens, Kent County Council cabinet member for adult social services.***

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Labour's identity crisis

Labour Party conference delegates gave Gordon Brown a huge round of applause when they thought he'd announced the abolition of his authoritarian ID card scheme.

Sadly, they were mistaken. Mr Brown's government still plans to force everyone applying for a passport to pay for an identity card at the same time.

Being registered on the ID card database would be a one-way ticket to a lifetime of reporting requirements, periodic fingerprinting and fines of up to £1,000 for failing to update information. The Government says it wants the ID card scheme to become "an essential part of everyday life" and is spending more than half a million pounds publicising it over the next three months.

For facts, not misleading rhetoric, visit the NO2ID website: http://www.no2id.net.

Ian Taylor, NO2ID campaign, Dover branch

Sold down the river

Unless David Cameron is committed to a referendum on EU membership it will not matter who wins the next election because our sovereignty will already be gone.

We may as well let the one who created the problem, namely Gordon Brown, run the country, because our government will merely be caretakers for the monstrosity going by the name of the EU but, in fact, being run by Germany and France for their own benefit.

They must be laughing at us for letting this crowd of no-hopers not only bankrupt the country but sell us down the river to boot.

Wake up, Britain, before it's too late. Demand a say in our country's future

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Ireland saw EU sense

The Irish have voted yes to the Lisbon Treaty, despite Eurosceptics descending upon Ireland over the last few weeks, with fanciful accounts of gloom and disaster about the EU.

The UK Independence Party even sent a glossy booklet to every household in the country (which didn't have the honesty to say it was from Ukip) containing unfounded scare stories about the treaty, complete with elaborate graphics and images. Thank goodness the Irish saw through this propaganda.

Dr Alan Bullion, Liberal Democrat parliamentary spokesman for Sevenoaks

Punishing the bad parents

I was concerned by your story headlined 'Pilkington case vindicates taking robust approach' (Kent on Sunday, October 4) about the suicide of the woman in Leicestershire who also burned her retarded daughter to death.

So, the gang who tormented the family have gone unpunished. But what of the gang members' parents?

Did they know what their children were doing? And if not, why not? Do they even care? Why did they allow their children to grow up that way?

Unfortunately, none of these parents will ever be punished. Bad parents never are, are they? The Government has at last come round to the idea of suspending the benefits of bad parents. But in this case, it's shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted. Why not 'name and shame' bad parents by putting their photographs in newspapers and on the internet? Why don't these parents control their kids?

In a minority of cases they may not know how to, so let's have compulsory parenting lessons in secondary schools.

However, in most cases it's probably because they can't be bothered – hence the need for punishment.

Marc Hurstfield, Northfleet

No need for GM crops

Although European environment ministers rejected imposing GM crops on Austria and Hungary in March, there are still attempts to get producers and retailers throughout the EU to adopt GM crops, despite public opposition. People have demonstrated repeatedly what they want. Residents of Kent and Medway have, like others in the UK, supported local farmers' markets, grown more of their own food than before, sought allotments and chosen to buy local produce.

There is no pressing need for GM crops. In the UK, we create more employment every year in which more of us buy from local, independent food producers. And there is no doubt that rising demand for seeds for food-growing signals an exceptional shift in attitudes. Public action to secure fresh, locally-produced food is to be celebrated.

It is an appropriate response to recession, as is growing more of your own food, and part of the Green New Deal I am advocating for the UK. Kent has the special advantage of large areas of productive land, despite the best efforts of planners and developers to use up far too much of it. Public pressure for local food and allotments is building for the kind of future we need – may there be more of it.

Caroline Lucas, Green Party MEP for Kent and Medway

Tories love a fast buck

At Monday's cabinet meeting, Medway Council's Tories ignored the pleas of parents, staff, governors and children and confirmed their decision to shut St John's Infant School in Chatham. The Tories claimed:

- The Government was making them close schools. Not true. School organisation is a matter for local councils, under the 1998 School Standards Act.
- They had to close schools to get rid of surplus places. Not true. There are just 15 surplus places at St John's.
- Teachers were retiring. Not true. No teachers have handed in their notice.
- There are plenty of places for St John's children at other schools. Untrue. Nearby schools only have a handful of the places needed.

The Tories quoted selectively from the school's Ofsted report. The report was not due for publication until October 8 and should not have been mentioned at the meeting on Monday for reasons of confidentiality.

Not a single reason given justified the decision to close St John's, the information used was untrue, and confidential information has been used inappropriately. All of which begs the question, why close St John's?

People have suspected for some time the real reason is land. A developer would find St John's an attractive proposition and, as with Ridge Meadow, the Tories can't resist the chance to sell off sites for a fast buck. Is land really more important to them than children?

Cllr Bill Esterson, Labour spokesman, children's services, Medway Council

Letters continue on page 30

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Some of the recipients of grants and awards (from top left)
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BIRTHS

BROADLEY
Harry Steven Broadley born on the 29th September 2009 to loving parents Minnette and Steve. Weighing 6lb 15oz. Welcome to the world.

CAULFIELD
Alexander Michael Raymond Caulfield born on 12th september at Maidstone Hospital weighing 6lbs 9ozs. Brother to Zoe and son to Raymond and Davina.

FARRANT
Chara and Daniel Farrant of Folkestone celebrate the birth of their son Owen-Daniel Ian Farrant. Weighing 6lbs 3oz on the 5th October 2009 at 10:08pm.

FISHER
Laura and Jason are proud to announce the birth of Archie Graham Fisher. Born 17/09/2009 weighing 9lbs. A little brother for Alfie.

KELLEHER
Peter and Lei of Broadstairs celebrate the birth of their daughter Darna Ann Kelleher on 15th September 2009. A precious sister for Blue and Taryn. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

MARSHALL
Gavin and Lucy would like to welcome anoher lovely addition to the family Hannah Elizabeth Margaret Marshall born on 20th September 2009 at the ungodly hour of 5.30 in the morning weighing 8lb 10oz. Big sister Chloe think shes great. Lots of love Mummy and Daddy. Watch out world here comes another one xx.

MUERASSE
Nahaliel Elsie was born on 17th September 2009 weighing 8lb 8oz, a beautiful baby sister for Nehemiah.

MURTON
Ava Abigail born on 9th September 2009 weighing 8lbs. Daughter to Heather and Haydon, sister to Sam and Finn.

NICHOLAS
Avril and Stuart are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter Sophie on 26th September 2009 at 10:15am.

REYNOLDS
Graham and Emma of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Charles Patrick Reynolds, on 28th September 2009 at 11.45pm weighing 9lb.

ROBINSON
Claire and Philip Robinson celebrate the birth of their son Benjamin Alexander Robinson on 26th September weighing 7lbs 3oz.

ROSE
Alan and Lisa Rose of Hawkinge celebrate the birth of their son Oliver James Randal on the 28th September 2009.

RUSSELL
Stacey and Daniel Russell of Margate celebrate the birth of their daughter Emma Rose Russell on 16th September 2009.

STANDLEY / FRAMPTON
Isabelle Madeleine Charlie born on 25th September 2009 weighing 8lbs. Daughter to Charlie and Gareth in Snodland.

SUTTON
Matthew and Cathryn of Bridge are pleased to announce the birth of James on 16th September 2009. A new brother for Patrick and George.

TERRY
Maximus born on 24th September 2009, weighing 7lbs 12oz. Son to Briony and Stephen in Maidstone.

TURNER
Rory William born on 22nd September 2009, weighing 8lb 7oz. Son to Liam Turner and Jessica Stemp.

UNDERDOWN
Freya Louise Underdown born on 28th September 2009 at Maidstone Hospital. Daughter to Neil and Nicola and sister to Seren and Paige.

WHEATLEY / WANG
Oscar born on 3rd October 2009 weighing 7lbs 2oz. Son to Huiping and Peter in Maidstone.

WRIGHT
Chris and Alice of Herne Bay are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful daughter, Madison Johanna. Madison was born on 22nd September 2009 at 9.20pm weighing 8lb 2oz.

DEATHS

BOECKX
Tuur Boeckx of Broadstairs passed away in his sleep on 30th September 2009, aged 82. Donations please to Thanet Disabled Riding Centre c/o Blackburn Funeral Service, 7 Buckingham Road, Broadstairs.

COLE
Sidney Charles of Ramsgate - formerly Margate. Passed away peacefully on 3rd October 2009. Will be dearly missed.

MILNER
Charles Walter Milner died peacefully on 4th October 2009 at home. A much loved husband dad and grandad. He will be missed by all the family.

POOKE
George William Pooke died peacefully on the 1st October 2009 aged 82. Dearly loved father of George, Valerie and Tom. Funeral Service at Honor Oak Crematorium London on 19th October at 2.30pm.

STURGESS
Ted Sturgess of Minster , formerly of Birchington passed away peacefully at QEQM Hospital Margate on 3rd October 2009. Any enquiries please contact Coles Funeral Directors, Minster, Thanet, Kent.

THOMAS
Barry Thomas. It is with great sadness that his beloved wife Dorothy and family announce his death on Sunday 27th September 2009. The funeral will be at Medway Crematorium on Wednesday 14th October 2009 at 1.40 pm. The family would prefer donations to Kent County Scout Council c/o Horlock Funeral Directors 11 Station Road Longfield Kent 01474 705076.

TUTT
Rusty Tutt passed away peacefully in her sleep aged 95. Re-united with her beloved Mum and Dad.

TWELFTREE
George Ernest aged 92 years, muched loved father of Gregory and Philippa. Previously from Chesham, Bucks and now West Malling, Kent. Died on 2nd October 2009. Funeral Service on 13th October at 2pm in Amersham Crematorium. All enquiries to Ken Satterly, Funeral Directors. 01494 776777.

WARNE
Margaret Warne passed away after a short illness on the 1st October 2009. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Enquiries to Chittendens Hythe.

WOOD
Mary Hilda died on 1st October 2009 aged 97 years. There will be a simple committal service for close family only at Barham Crematorium at 10.40 am on Monday, 12th October. There will be a Thanksgiving Service in celebration of her life at 3.00pm on Thursday 29th October in St. Marys Church, Patrixbourne, followed by the interment of her ashes in her husbands grave. Gates to the recreation ground will be open to allow parking. All family and friends are most welcome to the service and afterwards for tea at Glebe House, St. Stephens Road, Canterbury. No flowers please, but donations may be made in her memory to Canterbury Christ Church University (St. Gregorys Fund) North Holmes Road, Canterbury for the new concert hall.

Letters continued from page 29

Our high street heroes

With many of Britain's high streets feeling the pinch, National Customer Service Week, which ends this weekend, gives us a chance to recognise the fantastic service provided by the often unsung high street heroes who really go the extra mile.

At Which? Local (www.which-local.co.uk) we receive recommendations every day from people who want to tell others about great service from local traders.

From family butchers that have been serving the community for generations to computer repair shops, our members tell us that you can find great customer care in every corner of the UK.

We've received so many glowing reviews for local businesses that this summer we launched awards to recognise the best across a variety of trades and regions, to congratulate them for a job well done.

Let's reward and support the best of the high street in these difficult times. And if you find a good local business, then spread the word. As the adage says, 'You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone'. Let's not allow this to happen to our local gems.

Pete Tynan, manager, Which? Local

Trouble in paradise

The Red Cross has launched an appeal for Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga, to support people affected by the earthquake and tsunami that struck on September 29.

Samoa Red Cross and Tonga Red Cross staff and volunteers helped move people away from coastal areas as soon as the tsunami warning was issued and more than 200 volunteers have been providing emergency support.

The tsunami devastated a coastal strip of 40 kilometres on Samoa where 40 villages once stood. Thousands of people have lost their homes and livelihoods. The Red Cross is rebuilding lives and getting communities back on their feet. Many people have fled to the hills, scared to return and be near the ocean.

The Red Cross continues to tackle immediate needs by providing food, water, blankets, cooking pots and tarpaulins to those affected, but is now looking ahead to providing safe water until damaged supply systems are restored, preventing the spread of disease, and reconnecting families who have been separated. The British Red Cross is one of the charities benefiting from the Disasters Emergency Committee's (DEC) East Asia Appeal raising money for Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. Due to the scale of the Red Cross operation in Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga, the British Red Cross has launched the Samoa Tsunami Appeal to raise funds to help those affected in the region. To donate, visit www.redcross.org.uk/samoatsunami or call 0845 054 7200.

Mike Goodhand, head of disaster management, British Red Cross

Not 'robust' enough

No-one should be forced to move out of their home because of persistent abuse and harassment from gangs of feral youths.

Chief Constable of Kent Michael Fuller may believe his force takes a "robust" approach to antisocial behaviour, but the law in this country is nowhere near tough enough on the perpetrators of hate crime, who often receive more assistance from the authorities than do the persecuted innocents.

This incomprehensible subversion has made the brutes who delight in bullying the weak and vulnerable feel as though they are untouchable and above the law.

We must try not to lose hope that one day soon a system of justice will be implemented that hands the victims back their stolen rights and once again instils fear into thugs who think they are immune from prosecution.

However, it is surely not too unrealistic a prediction that, should a sea-change not come about quickly, law-abiding citizens will become vigilantes as they seek to turn the tables on their tormentors and drive them from their blighted communities.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury

Driving the point home

It would be nice if readers who are going to complain just read my letters before replying with some knee-jerk rant.

Seatbelts in most cases do prevent injuries and save lives, but what they don't do, which those in power are suggesting, is that somehow it prevents you from having an accident – and that was the point I was making.

Mr Wilkins-Oppler (who I believe does not own a car) is a master at pointing out worst-case scenarios, to justify laws that have no built-in common sense.

Is someone sitting in a camera van, with a flask of tea and sandwiches, turning registration numbers into cash really some readers' idea of road safety?

Those who are more enlightened in anti-car policies – and who take some pride in their driving abilities – might just hate having more laws forced upon them because of the actions of a small minority.

Terry Hudson, Herne Bay

Marathon musketeers

We would like to ask any readers taking part in next year's Flora London Marathon, on April 25, and who have an independent place, if they would run for Meningitis UK.

Meningitis UK has a single focus: to find a vaccine to eradicate all forms of meningitis. Tragically, meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia continue to affect thousands of people in the UK every year and kill more children under five than any other infectious disease.

Our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign aims to raise £7 million to fund research into finding a vaccine for meningococcal group B, the most common form of meningitis in the UK.

This accounts for almost 90 per cent of all cases and there is no vaccine. Everyone who runs for Meningitis UK will be part of the meningitis musketeers team – with the motto All 4 One and One 4 All – to highlight the fact that meningitis can kill in under four hours and the importance of our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign.

Full support will be given and everyone who participates will receive a free Search 4 a Vaccine running vest or T-shirt, and a handy information pack including hints and tips on how to prepare. If you would like to help us achieve our vision, contact me on 0117 302 6191 for a sponsorship pack.

Lauren Vincent, Meningitis UK

No return to cruelty

New polling by the League Against Cruel Sports shows support for the Hunting Act is stronger than ever, with figures confirming that people do not want a return to cruelty.

Despite what the pro-hunting lobby would like us to believe, hunting is not more popular now than before the ban. The figures speak for themselves when it comes to the public's disgust at the thought of turning the clock back to a time when allowing packs of dogs to chase and kill for sport was a legal pastime.

Some 75 per cent think fox hunting should remain illegal, while an overwhelming 84 and 85 per cent respectively do not want to see deer hunting and hare hunting or coursing made legal again in this country – all of which would be, should the Hunting Act be repealed.

As we approach the general election, it is vital voters make all prospective candidates aware of the strength of feeling on this matter in order to keep cruelty history. To help us secure the future of the Hunting Act, visit www.keepcrueltyhistory.com.

Douglas Batchelor, chief executive, League Against Cruel Sports

Freeze out fuel poverty

Have you been affected by cancer and had trouble paying fuel bills? If so, Macmillan Cancer Support would like to hear from you.

Perhaps you are struggling to make ends meet because your income has gone down since you or someone in your family has been diagnosed with cancer? Or maybe you have been awarded a Macmillan grant to help pay the bills?

A recent survey found two-thirds of cancer patients struggling financially say paying fuel bills is their biggest money worry.

Macmillan would like to hear from anyone who has had cancer or is living with cancer. We would also like to hear from families whose household income has been affected by a cancer diagnosis.

In particular, we are looking for people who are willing to talk publicly about their experience in support of our campaign to see the winter fuel payment extended to cancer patients. Call me on 020 8222 9028, or email kchaytor@macmillan.org.uk.

For more information on the Freeze Out Fuel Poverty campaign, please visit www.macmillan.org.uk/fuelpoverty.

Katy Chaytor, Macmillan Cancer Support

Conservative cowards

Now that the Irish referendum is over, David Cameron is showing how shallow he is when it comes to difficult decisions.

Incapable of leading his party forward on Europe, he prefers to hold up a flag of truce between the Europhile wing of the Tory party and the Europhobes who would have us renegotiate our way out of the EU.

Incapable of being honest over a referendum in the UK, he chooses to duck the issue, hoping the Polish president and a Czech court will decide matters for him.

If Mr Cameron wishes the electorate to take him seriously, let him not only declare a future Conservative government would hold a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty but that his government would be bound by its outcome, whether or not it has been ratified by all 27 member states.

If he is incapable of that degree of honesty we shall all know what colours the Tory party is travelling under in Europe. Every shade of white – from white flags to white-wash and the white feather of cowardice.

Donald Worsley, Labour parliamentary candidate, Folkestone and Hythe

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Students dive into business of retail

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

SIX apprentices have joined a new scheme at a shopping centre to develop expert skills in retail.

Bluewater, which claims to be Europe's leading retail and leisure destination, said the trainees would get an insight into every aspect of running a retail business.

Andrew Parkinson, the centre's general manager, said: "Many of the UK's leading retail experts have worked, or do work, at Bluewater.

"The Bluewater Apprenticeship Scheme is about creating the next generation.

"The quality of applicants was extremely high and it was no easy task making the final selection, but we are delighted with the strength of character, variety of interests and ambition of our six apprentices.

"We wish them every success, not just with the apprenticeship, but with their careers in the retail industry."

The young people will learn about the centre from every angle, from working on the shop floor to being part of the management team.

Mr Parkinson said the scheme was the first of its kind in the UK.

Malcolm Bell, of The Learning Shop where the course is based at the centre, said: "The scheme is the latest in a series of initiatives developed by Bluewater and The Learning Shop, which is a partnership between Lend Lease, North West Kent College and Jobcentre Plus.

"In the last 10 years, Bluewater has created over 22,000 jobs, and more than 10,000 people have received training from The Learning Shop, with over 8,000 qualifications awarded. Around 40 per cent of the people employed by Bluewater are within the 16 to 24-year-old age range.

ON THE JOB: The new apprentices will learn everything there is to know about retail

"The apprenticeship recognises the many career paths available in the retail industry and is another major milestone for Bluewater. We are confident it will be a great success, not just in its first year but for many years to come."

The apprentices will follow a 12-month programme that includes classroom and placement-based training to achieve a recognised qualification.

Following a two-part interview process, which attracted more than 50 applicants, the six candidates for the first year have now been selected and began their apprenticeship on September 7.

The 2009 apprentices are: Ruden Yamang, 18, from Chatham; Nick Jelfs, 19, from Dartford; Kai Cocklin, 18, from Bexleyheath; Piri Longendran, 18, from Greenhithe; Katie Barnard, 18, from Welling; and Danny Rogers, 18, from Dartford.

Jenefer Greenwood, chair of the National Skills Academy for Retail, said: "In addition to providing excellent training, this important new initiative highlights the breadth and diversity of the retail sector, and promotes retail as an exciting career choice, rather than an option of last resort.

"I believe it will act as a template for the industry and hope we will soon see similar schemes being launched elsewhere."

Dr Howard Stoate, the Labour MP for Dartford, added: "Bluewater has been a catalyst, inspiration and major benefactor to the community for over a decade. This very important initiative is just one example of why it will continue to be so for another 10 years and beyond."

Contest draws on the altruistic side of design

AN ECO-award has been launched to find the top creative skills in the South East.

Kent students at the University for the Creative Arts campuses at Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester will be competing against the university's other sites in Epsom and Farnham.

The Ur Idea, Ur World competition has been running annually at the university and will challenge students on how their creativity and innovation can make the world a better place.

Industry experts will act as mentors to all students from each of the five campuses to help them take their ideas through to the Dragons' Den-style final round.

Innovation

Uwe Derksen, assistant director of research and enterprise at UCA, said, "Students who have participated in this competition have found it a valuable experience and an important further stepping stone into the world of work and enterprise.

"The award is continuously developing and testing the students' innovation and enterprise skills with support from the industry.

"This year UCA students have a fantastic opportunity to develop their innovative ideas for a better world and present them to representatives from industry and education."

The students taking part are training for creative careers through courses including architecture, media and communication.

Prizes up for grabs include a £1,000 cash prize, an Apple 13in MacBook Pro, iPod Nanos and an opportunity to take part in work placements with industry leaders.

Job club encourages support

A CLUB offering training for people who are looking for work has been launched by a town council in west Kent.

The Sevenoaks Job Club opened on Monday and will be open daily from 10am-noon at the town council offices in Bradbourne Vale Road.

The council said it would help members to arrange speakers, training and advice based on the views of the job seekers attending. It is hoped people will share experiences and encourage each other in the search for work.

The Citizens Advice Bureau, Voluntary Action West Kent, Sevenoaks District Council, and Job Centre Plus are all involved in the project.

Don't bury your head in the sand!!

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require an

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Tel: 01233 813217

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www.directchoice.com

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To advertise in this section **01303 817040**

Jobs for Kent continued on page 41

Welcome to Environment, Highways and Waste

We provide a range of services for the people of Kent, many of which you may use on a daily basis.

We hope the following pages will give you a flavour of some of the things we do on your behalf. If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to use the contact details provided at the end of each article.

Manor Park Country Park

Manor Park Country Park, West Malling near Maidstone is a 52-acre site owned and managed by Kent Country Parks, part of Kent County Council.

Over the past six months continuous investment has been given to this ever-popular park offering two new great additions.

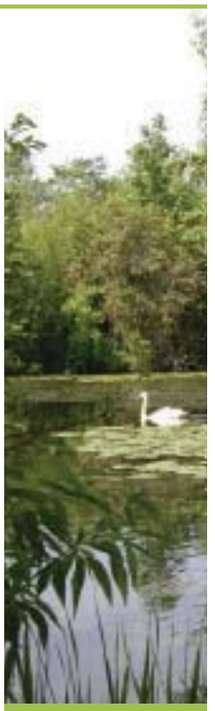
Firstly, a new play area has been built catering for children of 3-14 years, with an array of challenging equipment. Using rustic timbers Playdale have created a challenging playscape for children to test their climbing skills and balance, and for the younger ones engraved benches and swings add a more traditional feel.

October sees the opening of the new café facility. The café will offer a range of light meals and snacks. It is open at weekends throughout the year, and weekdays during summer months and school holidays (excluding Christmas).

One of the visitors to Manor Park Country Park said "Having facilities such as the café, toilets and play area turns a standard park into a family friendly area, well done on the development".

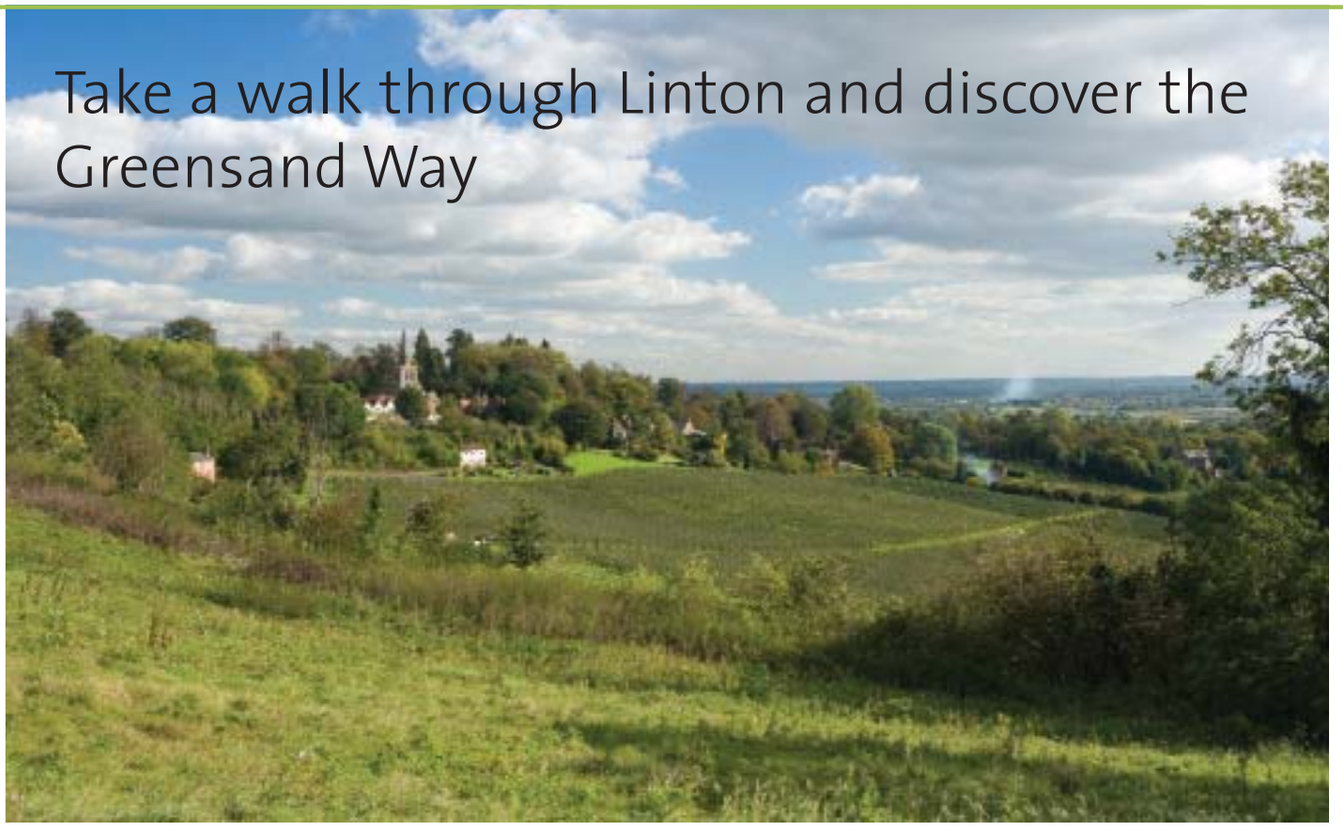
Manor Park will be holding Junior Ranger Days during the October half term. They will include environmental themed games, camp building, wildlife monitoring and bug hunting.

For more information on Kent Country Parks and events in the parks, please visit www.kent.gov.uk/kentcountryparks or call 08458 247 600



Country Parks

Take a walk through Linton and discover the Greensand Way



Enjoy open parkland, orchards, oasts and incredible panoramic views over the Weald to the South Downs on this truly memorable 4 mile (6.4 km) walk.

The walk starts in the enchanting village of Linton, just a stone's throw from the hustle and bustle of Maidstone town centre. The route quickly leads you on to the Greensand Way, following the ridge high above the River Beult. The Greensand Way, a wonderful 108-mile long distance route, starts in Haselmere, Surrey, and ends in Hamstreet, in Kent.

As you embark on the first leg of the route you may catch a glimpse of the impressive white walls of Linton Park House that can be seen though the trees. The pathway passes through light woodland and copses of holly, sycamore and sweet chestnut.

Continue on past well-established orchards, which provide a mass of blossom in spring and a wonderful rich apple scent in autumn months. The high hedges around the orchards provide the fruit trees with much needed shelter from adverse weather. As you continue on, the views open up again on your right and on a clear day you can see Goudhurst village.

Did you know?

- Stone from the Greensand Ridge has been quarried here since Roman times for building. The last quarry closed in the 1960s.
- The oldest part of The Bull Inn at Linton is believed to date from the 16th century when it was built as a watering hole for travellers. The pub is reputed to be haunted and there are tales of hidden secret tunnels.
- Fallow deer have wandered in Boughton Monchelsea place for more than 300 years.
- St Nicholas Church, at Linton, was struck by lightning in 1838. Part of the spire was destroyed.
- Apples originated in the Middle East more than 4,000 years ago. They probably came to the UK with the Romans but it was really in the Norman era that specially cultivated varieties spread across Europe. Apple growing was in decline in England following the Black Death and the Wars of the Roses. Orchards were revived by Henry VIII who instructed his fruiterers to scour the known world for the best varieties, which he planted in Kent.

Explore Kent

Even more dramatic views can be enjoyed as you follow the route alongside St Peter's Church in the village of Boughton Monchelsea. The lychgate to the church was constructed, without nails, in 1470 and is believed to be the second oldest in the country.

Also en route, Boughton Monchelsea Place strikes an imposing presence across the surrounding countryside. Standing in 165 acres of grounds this Elizabethan stone-built manor boasts its own lake, deer park and woodland.

Sleepy cattle and sheep languish in nearby fields as you pass by heading towards Linton Park. In the heart of the park you cannot fail to stop and take in the scene that surrounds you. The imposing white palladian mansion house with its high flagpole sits amongst the beautiful parkland. Continue onwards across the park to reach the lake; in the summertime filled with water lillies and a popular habitat for wildfowl.

Arriving back in Linton, The Bull Inn is conveniently situated for a welcome rest and refreshment stop.

Walk Summary

Location:	Linton
Distance:	4 miles (6.4 km)
Time:	allow 2.5 hours
Explorer Map:	136, 148
Terrain:	mainly arable and pastures, paths with some road sections
Stiles:	8
Steps:	2 sets
Step Count:	approx 8,400

Explore KENT

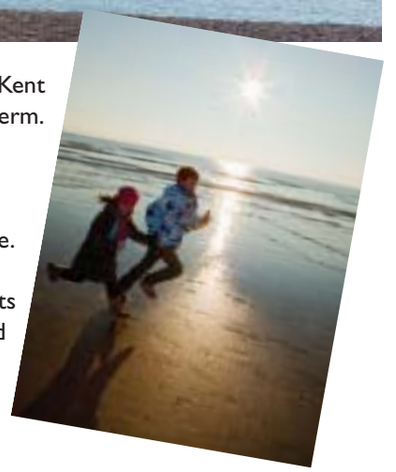
For further information about walking, cycling, horse riding visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent or call 08458 247 600

Explore Kent

Natural Environment

Kent's Coastal Week

24 October – 1 November 2009



A celebration of the Kent coast, this programme provides free or subsidised events for the Kent public around the whole 350 miles of varied coastline and takes place during October half term. This year's programme is sponsored by the Environment Agency and Natural England.

This year 20 different organisations will be involved and a new element will be 'Fishing and Eating for a Healthy Sea' which will focus on the fishing industry, seafood and underwater life.

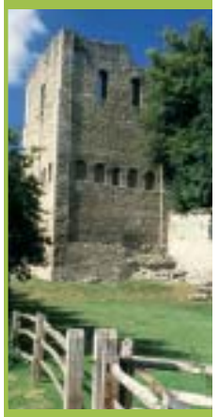
The full programme details are available at www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent. There will be events focusing on heritage and wildlife, plus guided walks, markets, stalls, exhibitions, art events and trips out on the water.

The 'Fishing and Eating for a Healthy Sea' activities will take place around the Kent coast, but there will be big events at the fishing ports of Whitstable, Ramsgate and Folkestone.

Resources relating to sustainable seafood will be available at events. The Marine Conservation Society has a 'Pocket Good Fish Guide' which allows consumers to make the right choices when shopping. Produced in Kent will have their 'Soul to Soul' leaflet available, which provides a guide to fishmongers and restaurants selling sustainable seafood landed in Kent. The Kent Farmers Market Association will also be promoting market days with local seafood available.

We hope that this year's coastal week has something for everyone and look forward to seeing you!

For further information about Coastal Week visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent or call 08458 247 600.



Heritage

The Shorne Woods Country Park Community Archaeology Project

Since 2006, a Lottery funded community project has sought to better understand the archaeology of Shorne Woods Country Park, in Gravesend. Work has focused over the past four summers on the site of Randall Manor.

Over 700 hundred years ago this was the seat of the de Cobham family. Finds, including pottery and tile, suggest it was a high status site.

Excavations will continue for one more season, in July 2010. Although the dig is run by KCC archaeologists, all of the diggers are local volunteers and schools. New volunteers are always welcome.

The project is also investigating prehistoric and recent industrial sites. Over the winter we will be running survey days and finds processing activities.

Anglo-Saxons in Sittingbourne

An exciting archaeological project was launched in September in the Forum shopping centre in Sittingbourne.

Volunteers from the local community are being trained to help with the scientific conservation of the astonishing array of 2,500 objects unearthed during the excavation of a major Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

The precious artefacts include a perfectly preserved pair of glass drinking vessels, weapons, brooches and decorative glass beads. The conserved finds will be on display for all to see at the end of the project.

Anglo-Saxon CSI (Conservation Science Investigations) Sittingbourne is organised by Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) conservator Dana Goodburn-Brown, and Sittingbourne Heritage Centre, with funding from Marston's Inns and Taverns and a grant from Kent County Council.

For more information contact CAT on 01227 462062.

For further information about Exploring Kent's Past call 01622 696918, visit www.kent.gov.uk/heritage or email heritageconservation@kent.gov.uk

Love Food Hate Waste

Did you know that the average family with children wastes over £600 of good food every year: enough to fund a household utility bill!

Many of us find it hard to believe and often the response is "but I don't waste food!" However 84% of us currently do not realise the amount of good food we are wasting every day. The research shows that all of us waste food - it's not a generational thing!

So how does all this food end up being wasted?

Of the total amount of food that we throw away, over four million tonnes is completely avoidable. This is good food that could have been eaten. How often do you find that the 'use by' date on a packet of ham or sausages has been and gone and you end up throwing it away? The most common reason for this good food being wasted is that it is left and unused - over a quarter of the food left is thrown away whole, unopened or untouched and 19% of this is still in date!

Another reason for wasting this food is because we prepare and cook too much and either leave it on the plate or throw it away unserved.

The Love Food Hate Waste campaign is not set up to make us feel bad about wasting food but is to give us lots of easy tips to save up to £50 a month simply by making the most of the food we buy.

The good news is that when we become aware of what we are wasting, most of us are prepared to do something about it.

Cook once, eat twice

This well-known Jamaican family dish was traditionally served on Mondays to use up the salty ham left over from Sunday's dinner.

Feeds 4-6

75g streaky bacon, roughly chopped
1 onion, peeled and chopped
2 garlic cloves, peeled and crushed
2 x 400g tin kidney beans, drained and rinsed
400ml tin coconut milk
250g leftover ham, sausage or Polish sausage cut into small pieces
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme or a few sprigs of fresh thyme leaves
300ml long-grain rice (roughly a mug of uncooked rice)
Leftover vegetables such as peppers, courgettes, broccoli
Tabasco sauce or a hot sauce of your choice
Sea salt and ground black pepper
Coriander sprigs

Jamaican Vegetables, Beans and Rice

By Caroline Marson

1. In a non-stick medium pan, add the chopped bacon and cook until the fat is released. Then add the onion and garlic and cook over a low heat until just soft.
2. Add the beans, coconut milk, ham or sausage, cayenne pepper and thyme, and bring to the boil. Allow it to cook, stirring for about 1 minute.
3. Add the rice and 450ml boiling water. Turn down the heat to barely a simmer, cover and leave undisturbed for about 25 minutes.
4. When the rice is tender, stir gently and add any leftover vegetables. Add the Tabasco and season to taste. Serve in bowls and garnish with coriander sprigs. Allow your guests to help themselves to extra hot sauce.

Kent councils, through the Kent Waste Partnership, are encouraging residents to follow simple steps from the Love Food Hate Waste Campaign to reduce the amount of food we all throw away. A dedicated website has been created www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/kent which can help with meal planning to stop food getting forgotten at the back of the fridge. There is also information about understanding date labels, portioning, storage, rescue and revival tips for food, and finally lots of recipe ideas.

Many recipes are 'cook once, eat twice' ideas designed to save time. Even something as simple as taking a few minutes to rummage in the cupboards and fridge and then writing a list before going shopping can save time and prevent the mistake of buying things we already have in stock.

LOVE FOOD hate waste .com

recycle for Kent

Visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/kent for loads of top tips, ideas and recipes.

Recycle for Kent

Kent Highway Services

We're ready for winter

Kent Highway Services are here to keep Kent moving and the roads as safe as possible, which takes more care and planning during the winter months. We are already prepared to deal with winter weather conditions affecting our roads. While we know that severe weather is most likely to be experienced in December, January and February, ice and snow can occur both before and later, and as we all know, the weather can sometimes be unpredictable.

Treating the roads is often referred to as 'gritting' but we actually use crushed rock salt, not grit, to help prevent ice, frost and snow forming on road surfaces. We already have around 20,000 tonnes of salt stockpiled at seven depots throughout Kent. Over the winter period we have a system in place to manage salt stocks to try and ensure there is always enough, no matter how bad the weather gets.

We have a primary salting route network which includes the A and B roads and busy commuter routes; we treat these whenever we expect ice, frost and snow. In more severe winter weather, such as snow, we will also treat as many other roads as we can. There are agreements with farmers across Kent who will plough the more rural routes when we get snow.

From mid-October to mid-April we monitor the weather closely. Information is gathered every hour from 13 weather stations and then merged with a detailed weather forecast. The resulting information is issued to us three times a day by our forecast agency and specially trained winter duty officers assess this and turn it into a Kent Road Weather Forecast.

This level of detail is crucial for making sure that we salt routes as effectively as possible. Roads absorb heat during the day and release it at night, so while grass next to a road may have a light frost, the road temperature could be higher which means it may not need salting.

The road forecast gives precise details about which routes need to be salted, how much salt to put down and, most importantly, when to salt. We aim to lay salt at the point just before the road freezes to get its full benefit – even if that's 3am – and in severe weather we will do two runs or more in one night. Using this forecast technology means we're salting at the right time, first time.

Last winter was one of the wettest and coldest for over a decade. Due to our planning and preparations the majority of our roads were kept open, snow was cleared and we had enough salt in stock to carry out non-stop night time salting runs when necessary. This year we're well prepared for the winter ahead. You can help keep yourself safe too by making sure that your car is in good condition and you're prepared for bad weather before it gets here!

We will do as much as possible to help keep you safe during the winter months but this does rely on sensible driving and drivers taking account of the differing weather conditions. Even a light frost can make untreated roads slippery so please slow down, leave a bigger gap between you and the car in front and brake gently in icy conditions.

Did you know?

- There are 53 salting routes across Kent covering 30% of the road network.
- Each route has a dedicated salting vehicle and snow plough plus some spares.
- Kent Highway Services has seven salting depots across Kent where salt is stockpiled and the vehicles are kept.
- One salting lorry can hold up to 7 tonnes of salt.
- Salting vehicles are fitted with sensors at the back, so we can make sure the job's being done properly as we go.
- Salting lorries are weighed before and after each run, so we know how much salt has been used and can manage our salt stocks.
- Some of our salting vehicles are multi-use. By removing the salting pod, they become standard tipper lorries for use all-year round.
- We fill the salt bins that are along the roads that aren't on a salting route. Please remember, the salt is for the road, not private driveways!
- Kent Highway Services doesn't salt the motorways or trunk roads in Kent – they're looked after by the Highways Agency.

Road surfaces

Road surfaces wear out with use, and if not treated regularly roads can become less safe and more costly to repair. The number of vehicles, their speed and all types of weather - rain, snow and sunshine - affect how quickly the road surface deteriorates.

Each year, Kent Highway Services carries out a programme of road resurfacing. We plan which roads to repair based on inspections and surveys which look at the condition of the surface of the road, and also its resistance to skidding and the strength of the road. So far, since April this year we have resurfaced more than 650,000 square metres of carriageway, which is about 70 miles of road, or an area equivalent to 91 football pitches.

We are always looking at more sustainable methods of working. We are using more recycled materials in resurfacing of carriageways and then recycling the material we remove for use on pavements. In addition we are trying to reduce our Carbon Footprint both by using alternative materials and by reducing distance travelled by vehicles involved with the work.

Stay bright at night

Shorter days don't mean you have to put your bike away until next year, but it's vital that you're clearly visible for both your own safety and that of other road users. There are plenty of options to make yourself visible and it's important to choose the right equipment for your needs. A good front and rear light is essential; there is a huge range to choose from, costing between £10 and £500.

For commuting on the road you do not need the most powerful lights, but they need to be good enough for you to see the road clearly and to let other road users know you are there. If you choose rechargeable lights, it's a good idea to take along a back-up light in case you lose power – especially on longer rides.

Remember to also think about being seen from the side. Lights won't always give you good side visibility, so using wheel reflectors, stickers and tags can help. High visibility clothing is advisable at all times of the day, but it can be obscured by dark backpacks, so it's also worth thinking about high-visibility backpack covers.

Don't forget to give your bike a winter health check too. You can find out more about cycling at www.kent.gov.uk/cycling.

Walk Safe

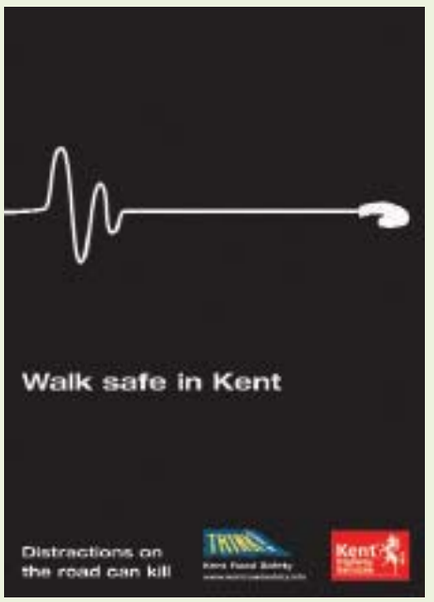
Young people are being urged to Walk Safe to avoid being hurt in a road crash.

They should take out their earphones for mobile phones and music players when they are walking near traffic or crossing the road at busy times. It's very easy to become distracted by mobile phones and Mp3 players and not pay attention to traffic around them.

Kent Highway Services' Road Safety Team gives these simple tips to help stay safe:

- Remove any earphones when crossing roads.
- Put away mobile phones or other distractions when crossing roads.
- Give the road your FULL attention when crossing.

These tips are even more important at this time of the year when the nights begin to draw in. Pedestrians become harder for traffic to spot especially younger and smaller ones. It is very important that whilst using the roads pedestrians pay attention to the tips above, and also wear bright or light clothing so they are seen.



Pedestrian Road Safety Officer Darren Cook said: "It's very easy to become distracted by Mp3 players and mobile phones and that's when you're most at risk. We therefore encourage people to switch off their gadgets and switch on their attention to stay safe."

For further information about Kent Highway Services or to report a fault visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways or call 08458 247 800

Kent Highway Services

Kent Highway Services

Sustainability and Climate Change

Pub crowned environmental winner

A 16th Century pub in Selling, near Faversham, has been named as the Kent Environment Business of the Year 2009.

The Rose & Crown was recognised at the Environment Awards for Kent Business ceremony, which took place at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park. The judges were particularly impressed with the way the owners encourage other local businesses to be as sustainable as the pub itself.

Over the past two years, staff at the Rose & Crown have reduced waste by 70% which means that 80,000 litres of waste has been recycled rather than going to landfill. Electricity usage has been reduced by 19.2%, which equates to a saving of nine tonnes of carbon. By including green alternatives in the company's business plan, gross profit margins have increased 6-9% year on year.

Tim Robinson, owner of the Rose and Crown preparing Kentish produce food for the pub

Presenting the award, Nick Chard, Kent County Council Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste, said, "It is important as we come out of recession that we continue to celebrate the achievements of Kent businesses. That is one of the main reasons for these awards and this year we have had some outstanding entries. It is equally important to highlight environmental best practice as a way of achieving efficiency and savings."

Multifor Project – Woodland Management

Woodlands and their ecosystems are extremely important and Kent County Council has joined with Nord Pas de Calais and Essex in a multi-agency project designed to investigate all aspects of managing, protecting and enhancing woodlands, in Kent, northern France and Essex.

The project, called Multifor, is an European-funded 'Interreg IV A' project worth approximately £200,000 to Kent County Council.

The project looks at multifunctional woodland management, to get the best potential in three areas; environmental, social and economic.

Project actions will include:

- Environmental – enhancing biodiversity.
- Social – encouraging access to and enjoyment of the woodland, including Forest Schools.
- Economic – exploring biomass potential.

There are some common cross-border objectives:

- To study the different components of woodland ecosystems and improve our understanding of the impact of global climate change on them.
- To reconcile the economic demand for sustainable timber and woodfuel production with the need to protect woodland habitats and species that have important ecological functions.
- To raise awareness of sustainable woodland management by example with landowners, managers, other stakeholders, and 'users' of woodlands including the general public.

For more information call 08458 247 600 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/environment/our-environment/protecting

This supplement is produced as added value in connection with KCC's Traffic Regulation Order contract.

Kent County Council

Kaleidoscope

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Rapidly expanding company based in Margate seeks positive and self-motivated individuals to sell our exciting new product to UK businesses over the phone.
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Contact James on 020 7482 8895 or by e-mail with cv at info@cciglobal.eu

POWER ELECTRICS + COMPUTER LITERATE

A small practice specialising in bespoke power control systems is looking for a self motivated person to fill an immediate project need under contract for six to nine months but could become permanent for the right person. Would suit someone with experience or maybe a graduate who is keen to please and learn. They would also need to be committed and hard working but enjoy a flexible and varied "routine". An ideal position for the right person - a problem for the wrong!

Skills needed are knowledge/experience of power electrics; computer/CAD literate; an interest in controls and software; verbal and written communication; etc…… but anything missing can follow on with the right attitude.

East Kent area.

Reply in confidence by email to: peter@powerplan.ltd.uk

POWERPLAN

Telesales Executive

We have an exciting opportunity for you to join our Multi Media business which includes the award winning Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday newspapers.

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. Due to location, you need to have your own transport and a proven track record in sales is preferable.

We offer:

- Good basic salary
- Performance and revenue related bonuses
- Five weeks holiday a year

Apply in writing to:
Tracy Morgan, Telesales Manager,
KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road,
Smeeth, Ashford, Kent or email
tracy.morgan@kosmedia.co.uk

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KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

Saint George's

Church of England School
Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

TEACHER OF SCIENCE

To cover Maternity Leave from November 2009 to June 2010
Main Pay Scale

We require a well-qualified, enthusiastic and innovative teacher of science who is committed to raising the achievement of our students.

Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date: 16 October 2009

JobsforKent.co.uk
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Jobs for Kent continued from page 32

Ursuline College

225 Canterbury Road
Westgate-on-Sea Kent CT8 8LX
Phone 01843 834431 Fax 01843 835365

SPORTS COLLEGES

Specialist Sports College

Roman Catholic Co-educational Voluntary Aided Comprehensive 770 on roll

Required immediately

PA to Headteacher

37 hours per week, Term Time plus 3 weeks (41 weeks per annum)
Kent Scheme Payscale 7/8 Points 20-28 £20,262—£26,421
(pro-rata to £17,875-£23,308)

We are seeking an experienced and exceptional Personal Assistant who will organise the smooth running of the Headteacher's office and co-ordinate an efficient and effective school office. This is an exciting opportunity to join this highly successful and over-subscribed College, to work with and support a hardworking, dedicated and friendly team of professionals, who are committed to achieving excellent standards across all areas of the School.

A full job description and person specification are available. Please apply for an application pack via e-mail to: lsimmons@ursuline.kent.sch.uk or in writing to Mrs L Simmons, School Bursar. Visits to the College are encouraged.

Closing date: Friday 23rd October 2009

Interviews to be held Wednesday 4th November 2009

"The College provides a good education for its learners and aspects of the College's work are outstanding" OFSTED 2007

Ursuline College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/ volunteers to share this commitment.

Valence School

Minibus Driver and Maintenance

(Kent Scheme 5 £16,793 - £18,471)
FULL TIME

Hours to be worked flexible in order to meet the complex needs of the students.

Clean driving licence is essential; PCV driving licence and trade qualification are desirable.

Valence School is a KCC all age residential school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting every student's welfare. We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check.

For further information and an application form, please contact Lee-Anne Fossett. Closing date for applications is Friday 16th October 2009.

Valence School, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN
Tel:- 07887 727182 Fax: 01959-565046
e-mail: vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Saint George's

Church of England School
Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

CURRICULUM LEADER of SCIENCE

Required for January 2010
TLR1b (£8,975)

An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a dynamic new Curriculum Leader of Science who can inspire staff and is committed to raising the achievement of our students.

Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over -subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new science facilities within our new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date : 21 October 2009

Teachers wanted

Local Teachers for Local Schools

We have 100's of permanent positions throughout Kent for qualified teachers, teaching assistants and school support staff.

Email kent.sussex@timeplan.net or call 01732 373340

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department for children, schools and families

timeplan

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TEACHERS AND COVER SUPERVISORS URGENTLY REQUIRED

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website: **www.termtimeteachers.co.uk**
e-mail: **office@termtimeteachers.co.uk**

At West Kent College, our goal is to provide an exceptional learning experience for every student - and now we need a committed individual to help us achieve that. In return, you can look forward to a great future with one of the most successful colleges in the south east region. You will find a genuinely open and supportive environment, as well as excellent training and development from this Investor in People organisation.

west kent college

Part-Time Dyslexia and Specific Needs Tutor

£11,880 - £16,333
+ excellent benefits

We are determined to provide the very highest levels of support to students with specific learning difficulties. Our excellent track record speaks for itself - and now we are taking it further. Our goal is to improve inclusion and deliver best practice as we raise the aspirations and achievements of every learner.

If you share our ambitions, this exciting role could be perfect for you. As well as assessing and supporting students across all curriculum areas, you will establish student support plans and contribute to diagnostic screening for Dyslexia.

With a recognised SpLD teaching qualification, you should bring proven experience of working with learners who have specific learning difficulties including Dyslexia, Aspergers, Dyspraxia and Speech and Language Disorder.

In return, there is an excellent range of benefits including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options, private health plan, on-site nursery and more. Previous applicants need not apply.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS11

Closing date: 12 noon Thursday 22 October 2009

THE QUEST SCHOOL

We wish to appoint a

'16+ Development Officer'

(non curricular).

This part time role (3 days per week) will entail establishing links with local colleges and developing work experience placements with local businesses for our pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Start date - ASAP

The right candidate will be self motivated and capable of using their initiative. Knowledge of KS5 special needs provision is required, a desire to make a difference in children's lives essential.

A full job description and application form is available from our website www.questschool.co.uk

Please return to:
Quest School, The Old Stables, Church Farm, Church Rd, Offham, West Malling, ME19 5NX. Tel: 01732 522700
Email: quest_school@btconnect.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 23rd October 2009

Quest School is an equal opportunities employer
We are committed to promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children.

THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

(A Foundation Technology College)
Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc
Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385
Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

2 x Site Services Officers – Facilities and Amenities Lettings

Salary: NJC Scale pro-rata D1 point 7 – Point 16 (presently £12,787 - £16,440)

Part-time (18.5 hours per week) including holiday periods, Hours are envisaged to be:

Post 1: Friday 4:00pm - 7:00pm; Saturday 9:00am - 5:30pm; Sunday 9:30am - 4:30pm
Post 2: Sunday 9:30am – 4:30pm; Monday-Thursday 4:00pm - 7:00pm.
(Some flexibility of actual working times is required with potential for future increase of these hours)

The ideal candidates should be self motivated, responsive to demand, capable of working under pressure and on their own initiative as required. Formal qualifications in DIY and grounds maintenance are not essential; however, candidates should be able to demonstrate a practical aptitude for general building/grounds maintenance.

The posts require some clerical administrative undertaking
Primary responsibility of the roles will be to support and assist the activities of the site team and the on-site lettings during both evenings and weekends.
Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form.

Closing date for applications: Monday 12th October 2009

Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Monday 19th October 2009

The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal opportunities Employer

- committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.

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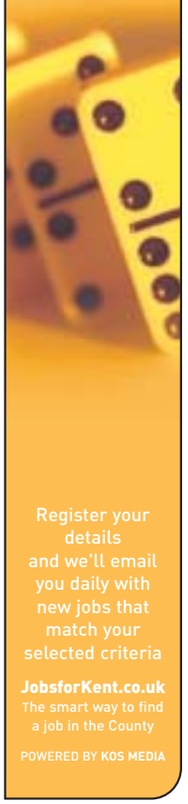

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NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ

We are seeking to appoint

SCHOOL INCLUSION OFFICER
£13,272-£14,598 p.a.
Up to 35 Hours per week (8.15 am to 3.45 p.m.) Term Time Only
Initially a one year fixed term contract to 31.8.2010

The role will involve
- Running the school inclusion room (an alternative to fixed term exclusion)
- Dealing with parental enquiries through telephone and face-to-face meetings including investigation and mediation.
- Promoting good attendance, attitudes and behaviour at all times
- Assisting with a range of administrative support including support to exclusion, discipline and other student related meetings.

A flexible approach to working and the ability to work as part of a team and under your own initiative are essential. Good communication skills at all levels are essential.

Experience of working with young people in an educational, Youth and Community or similar environment would be an advantage.

Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and the name of two referees to Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ or email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: 12 October 2009

We are seeking to appoint

RECEPTIONIST/ADMINISTRATOR
Afternoon/Evening Term Time Only – 3 pm to 7 pm (9.30 pm)
Core 20 hours per week /Term Time Only
Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 4 £7218 to £7584

The successful applicant will be computer literate, have excellent communication skills enabling them to communicate effectively with both students and adults, and be able to prioritise and work under pressure. Confident and competent use of the telephone is essential. A qualified first aider would be preferred, although training will be given.

This is a job share position and hours of work will be 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday - 39 weeks per year – with hours extending to 9.30 p.m. when required. Cover for during the day may occasionally also be needed.

Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and why you feel this is the post for you to Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ or email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date for applications: 12 October 2009

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Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

Spires ACADEMY

If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spires Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners.

In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important.

Vacancies for January 2010

Teacher of English

As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010.

Teacher of Girls' PE

We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010.

Teacher of Science

As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010.

Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009.

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Gravesham Borough Council

Transformation & Finance

Financial Services

Trainee Accountant

Salary: Circa £15,500 - £28,000

Gravesham is a diverse borough facing exciting challenges in the future. We are at the heart of the Thames Gateway and on the brink of massive growth and development, so if you've got vision, imagination and ambition, there's no better place to progress your career.

This is a career grade post that presents an exciting opportunity for the right candidate to increase their experience and responsibilities, as well as providing the opportunity to study for the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) professional accountancy qualification.

Reporting to the Principal Accountant (Technical & Systems) you will assist in the day to day work of the Council's financial services department including assisting in setting the annual budget for the Council, closure of the annual accounts, production of the annual Financial Statement and assisting in technical accountancy support and computer system administration for the finance section and the Council as a whole. We pride ourselves on providing a high quality financial management and advice service to designated budget holders and you will therefore be committed to continuation of this service, as well as bringing fresh ideas for improvements wherever possible.

You will need excellent communication skills and the ability to work to challenging deadlines, as well as possessing an understanding of the importance of the accountancy function to an organisation such as the Council. Experience of using Microsoft Word and Excel is essential, and you must have a customer focused and flexible approach to delivering financial information.

Ref: TA/SB

Closing date: 26 October 2009

For an application form and job description please contact:
Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

Telephone: 01474 33 70 00
Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk
Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk/jobs

Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.

Beacon Council 2005-2006 Promoting Racial Equality 2001-2002 Town Centre Regeneration

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Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 16/10/2009
Full-time/ Part-time/Jobshare Are you looking for a change in direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre.The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately. Administrator and PA to Doctor of a rapidly expanding health care practice. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics). Basic computer skills are preferable: Proficient user of Sage 50 and Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel and Publisher • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient. Work well solo • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success.
To apply/more information:
Lesley Spicer-Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Administrative Assistant / Clinical Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 24/10/09
FULL-TIME OR JOBSHARE • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics). Basic computer skills are preferable. No clinical experience necessary as full training will be given. Apply for this position if you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing. If you think you have what we are looking for, please apply in writing with your CV to: Lesley Spicer, The Wellness Practice Ltd, Blean, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB.
To apply/more information:
Lesley Spicer
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227789977
Email
admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

RECEPTIONIST/ ADMINISTRATOR

Dartford
Salary: £7,218 to £7,584
Closing Date: 12 October 2009
We are seeking to appoint a RECEPTIONIST/ADMINISTRATOR Afternoon/Evening Term Time Only - 3 pm to 7 pm (9.30 pm) Core 20 hours per week /Term Time Only Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 4 £7218 to £7584. The successful applicant will be computer literate, have excellent communication skills enabling them to communicate effectively with both students and adults, and be able to prioritise and work under pressure. Confident and competent use of the telephone is essential. A qualified first aider would be preferred, although training will be given. This is a job share position and hours of work will be 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday - 39 weeks per year - with hours extending to 9.30 p.m. when required. Cover for during the day may occasionally also be needed. Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and why you feel this is the post for you to Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ or email: personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Course Administrator

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Course Administrator required for a training company based in Womenswold, just outside Canterbury. Duties to include telephone, filing and general administration. Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm. Please telephone Jeanette on 01227 831840 or via email jeanette@amacsports.co.uk for further information.
To apply/more information:
AMACSports Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 831840
Email
jeanette@amacsports.co.uk

Child Care

Foster Carers

Kent
Salary: TBA
Make a difference - Be important in the life of a child - Foster a child • Looking for a new challenge? • Good career prospects • Excellent training and support • Use your skills to make a difference as part of a professional team • Have you considered becoming a therapeutic Foster Carer? For details and financial package call 01795 830006 or visit www.ktcc.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Kaleidoscope
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 830006
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

Housekeeper

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Brambles Care Home We require a Housekeeper 19.5 hrs pw. To join our small team providing cleaning and kitchen support to our elderly residents. Contact Kevin or Sheila for a job description and application form. WYE, ASHFORD. Tel: 01233 813217.
To apply/more information:
Brambles Care Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 813217
Email info@bramblescare.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Maths Teachers

Kent
Salary: negotiable
Maths teachers required for long term and permanent positions throughout the South East of England in particular the areas of Bexley, Ramsgate, Chatham, and Rochester. We offer excellent rates of pay, long term and permanent positions and outstanding teacher socials. The South East office is staffed by qualified teachers with recent classroom and senior management experience. "We work for you, finding you the work that you want." If you are interested in local, regular work and being supported by a team of professional teachers who know what they are doing please contact Britny Goulet at 01732 373 340 or britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-080917003
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Science Teachers

Kent
Salary: negotiable
Science teachers required for long term and permanent positions throughout the South East of England in the areas of Kent, Medway, East Sussex and especially West Sussex. We offer excellent rates of pay, long term and permanent positions and outstanding teacher socials. The South East office is staffed by qualified teachers with recent classroom and senior management experience. "We work for you, finding you the work that you want." If you are interested in local, regular work and being supported by a team of professional teachers who know what they are doing please contact Britny Goulet at 01732 373 340 or britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-080917004
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

TEACHER OF SCIENCE

Gravesend
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 16 October 2009
Saint George's of England School, Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College 11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School TEACHER OF SCIENCE To cover Maternity Leave from November 2009 to June 2010 Main Pay Scale. We require a well-qualified, enthusiastic and innovative teacher of science who is committed to raising the achievement of our students. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over - subscribed comprehensive school. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj@ saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Subject Leader in Mathematics

Aylesford
Salary: TLR2b
Closing Date: 12th October 2009
Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you:- *A brand new school. * Outstanding new facilities in all areas. * NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. * A highly

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regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. * Your own laptop. * A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. * A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- * Can motivate students through the curriculum. * Has the desire to make the difference. * Is focussed on developing their career further. * Is able to teach Mathematics at all key stages. * Can lead a team of good staff * Can develop this forward thinking department. Interviews to be held on Friday 16th October 2009.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Resistant Materials Teacher

Dartford
Salary: £120
Resistant materials teacher needed for an immediate start through to the end of the academic year at a North West Kent school with many good features. Through the hard work of students, staff, parents and governors, have built a strong reputation as a place of learning for all. Achieving Specialist College status in 2006. Position is suitable for qualified teachers, NQT, British or overseas trained teachers. All applicants must be fully qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or at britny.goulet@htimeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090630009
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

ICT Teacher

Kent
Salary: £120
ICT teacher needed for an immediate start at an East Sussex Co-Educational School for 10-19 year olds with 200 students and over 30 nationalities including English day students. Students and parents select the school because they know it is a school that contributes something special to their education. Its size allows the school to preserve a more home-like atmosphere, where the care and welfare of students is a priority. Small classes ensure pupils receive more individual attention, and there is an emphasis on traditional values and good manners. All applicants must be qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or by email at britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090924009
Tel: Goulet
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Music Teacher

Ashford
Salary: £120
Music teacher needed to cover a maternity leave beginning on 2nd November though until 7th June. Teacher will be required to teach up to GCSE level as well as BTEC at a large over subsribed mixed comprehensive Medway school with good management and resources. The staff at the school are very supportive and all new and overseas staff have a mentor appointed to them. All applicants must be qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. The post is suitable for experienced teaches as well as NQT's; British or overseas trained teachers. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or by email at britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090925003
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Design and Technology Teacher

Chatham
Salary: £120
Closing Date: 23/07/2010
Design and technology teacher required for a January start through until the end of the academic year at a large secondary school in The Medway area of Kent. This school has had a recent very positive Ofsted inspection. Good support program for newly qualified and overseas teachers. Good resources and a very well respected senior leadership. All applicants must be qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or by email at britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090914002
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Teacher of German Required

Maidstone
Salary: £22,000 - £30,000
Are you a qualified teacher of German looking to teach A-level German within a leading Grammar school in Kent? I am looking for a well qualified experienced teacher, or a confident and ambitious NQT to start full time in January 2010 or sooner.
To apply/more information:
Rachel
Molly Maid
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 676076
Email secondary@termtimeteachers.co.uk

Teacher of Spanish Required

Medway
Salary: £22,000 - £30,000
A confident and dedicated teacher of Spanish is required to join a leading Grammar school in the Medway area. Experience of AS/A2 is essential, and TLR's will be available for the right candidate.
To apply/more information:
Rachel
Molly Maid
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 676076
Email secondary@termtimeteachers.co.uk

2 x Site Services Officers

Rochester
Salary: £12,787 - £16,440 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 12th October 2009
THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL (A Foundation Technology College) Arethusa Road, Rochester, Kent. ME1 2UW. Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, Bsc Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385 Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk 2 x Site Services Officers - Facilities and Amenities Lettings. Salary: NJC Scale pro-rata D1 point 7 - Point 16 (presently £12,787 - £16,440) Part-time (18.5 hours per week) including holiday periods, Hours are envisaged to be: Post 1:Friday 4:00pm - 7:00pm; Saturday 9:00am - 5:30pm; Sunday 9:30am - 4:30pm Post 2:Sunday 9:30am - 4:30pm; Monday-Thursday 4:00pm - 7:00pm. (Some flexibility of actual working hours is required with potential for future increase of these hours) • The ideal candidates should be self motivated, responsive to demand, capable of working under pressure and on their own initiative as required. • Formal qualifications in DIY and grounds maintenance are not essential; however, candidates should be able to demonstrate a practical aptitude for general building/grounds maintenance. • The posts require some clerical administrative undertaking • Primary responsibility of the roles will be to support and assist the activities of the site team and the on-site lettings during both evenings and weekends. Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form. Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Monday 19th October 2009 The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal opportunities Employer - committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.
To apply/more information:
Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email
office@thomasaveling.co.uk

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SCHOOL INCLUSION OFFICER

Dartford
Salary: £13,272-£14,598 p.a.
Closing Date: 12 October 2009
We are seeking to appoint SCHOOL INCLUSION OFFICER £13,272-£14,598 p.a. Up to 35 Hours per week (8.15 am to 3.45 p.m.) Term Time Only Initially a one year fixed term contract to 31.8.2010 The role will involve • Running the school inclusion room (an alternative to fixed term exclusion) • Dealing with parental enquiries through telephone and face-to-face meetings including investigation and mediation. • Promoting good attendance, attitudes and behaviour at all times • Assisting with a range of administrative support including support to exclusion, discipline and other student related meetings. A flexible approach to working and the ability to work as part of a team and under your own initiative are essential. Good communication skills at all levels are essential. Experience of working with young people in an educational, Youth and Community or similar environment would be an advantage. Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and the name of two referees to Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ or email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

CURRICULUM LEADER of SCIENCE

Gravesend
Salary: TLR1b (£8,975)
Closing Date: 21 October 2009
Saint George's Church of England School Humanities College, Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844 HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC, Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College 11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School CURRICULUM LEADER of SCIENCE Required for January 2010 TLR1b (£8,975). An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a dynamic new Curriculum Leader of Science who can inspire staff and is committed to raising the achievement of our students. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over - subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new science facilities within our new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF. Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of English

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 23rd October 2009
If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spires Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners. In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important. Vacancies for January 2010. Teacher of English As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Girls' PE We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Science As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010. Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spiresacademy.com Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information:
Spires Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

Teacher of Girls' PE

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009.
If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spires Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners. In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important. Vacancies for January 2010. Teacher of English As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Girls' PE We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Science As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010. Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spiresacademy.com Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts. Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information:
Spires Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

Teacher of Science

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009
If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spires Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners. In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important. Vacancies for January 2010. Teacher of English As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Girls' PE We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Science As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010. Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009. Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spiresacademy.com Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts. Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information:
Spires Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

16 plus Development Officer

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 23rd October 2009
THE QUEST SCHOOL We wish to appoint a '16+ Development Officer' (non curricular). This part time role (3 days per week) will entail establishing links with local colleges and developing work experience placements with local businesses for our pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. Start date - ASAP. The right candidate will be self motivated and capable of using their initiative. Knowledge of KS5 special needs provision is required, a desire to make a difference in children's lives essential. A full job description and application form is available from our website www.questschool.co.uk Please return to: Quest School, The Old Stables, Church Farm, Church Rd, Offham, West Malling, ME19 5NX. Tel: 01732 522700 Email: quest_school@btconnect.com Quest School is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children.
To apply/more information:
Quest School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 522700
Email
quest_school@btconnect.com

PA to Headteacher

Thanet
Salary: £17,875-£23,308 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 23rd October 2009
Required immediately PA to Headteacher 37 hours per week, Term Time plus 3 weeks (41 weeks per annum) Kent Scheme Payscale 7/8 Points 20-28 £20,262 - £26,421 (pro-rata to £17,875-£23,308). We are seeking an experienced and exceptional Personal Assistant who will organise the smooth running of the Headteacher's office and co-ordinate an efficient and effective school office. This is an exciting opportunity to join this highly successful and over-subscribed College, to work with and support a hardworking, dedicated and friendly team of professionals, who are committed to achieving excellent standards across all areas of the School. A full job description and person specification are available. Please apply for an application pack via e-mail to: lsimmons@ursuline.kent.sch.uk or in writing to Mrs L Simmons, School Bursar. Visits to the College are encouraged. Interviews to be held Wednesday 4th November 2009 "The College provides a good education for its learners and aspects of the College's work are outstanding" OFSTED 2007 Ursuline College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/volunteers to share this commitment
To apply/more information:
Ursuline College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 834431
Email
lsimmons@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

POWER ELECTRICS and COMPUTER LITERATE

Kent
Salary: TBA
A small practice specialising in bespoke power control systems is looking for a self motivated person to fill an immediate project need under contract for six to nine months but could become permanent for the right person. Would suit someone with experience or maybe a graduate who is keen to please and learn. They would also need to be committed and hard working but enjoy a flexible and varied "routine". An ideal position for the right person - a problem for the wrong! Skills needed are knowledge/experience of power electrics; computer/CAD literate; an interest in controls and software; verbal and written communication; etc…….but anything missing can follow on with the right attitude. East Kent area. Reply in confidence by email to: peter@powerplan.ltd.uk or phone Peter Marsh Powerplan Managing Director Mob 07770594370.
To apply/more information:
Powerplan Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email peter@powerplan.ltd.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

Qualified Stylists and Beauticians

Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Qualified Stylists and Beauticians Required on a self-employed basis Rent a chair/room. For more information please call 01843 592027 or 07792 971116
To apply/more information:
Marcello's
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 592027
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

BEAUTY THERAPIST

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
BEAUTY THERAPIST Must be very experienced Please apply in writing to Helen Pritchard Fleur De Lys 115 Station Road Birchington Kent CT7 9RE.
To apply/more information:
Fleur de Lys
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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SANTAS, ELVES AND GROTTO SUPERVISORS

Kent
Salary: TBA
WANTED - SANTAS, ELVES AND GROTTO SUPERVISORS Dreamtime Events is recruiting for the country's leading Santas and Elves to spend the festive season in our magical grottos. If you love the Christmas season, are friendly, approachable, dedicated and hard working, you'll fit in perfectly. We have sites across the UK with Full or Part-time vacancies available: Bluewater, Brent Cross, Bromley, Watford, Tunbridge Wells, Camberley, Tonbridge. You will be rewarded with a high weekly income and a fun working environment for the Christmas Season. To be considered for the role of Santa you will either need to hold a clean CRB check no older than 12 months or be willing for us to apply for one on your behalf. For more information or to apply online: www.dreamtimeevents.com Or contact us on: Tel: 01727 767 258 Fax: 01727 898 334 E-Mail: office@dreamtimeevents.com
To apply/more information:
Dreamtime Events
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01727 767 258
Email
office@dreamtimeevents.com

Management, Senior Positions

Commercial Window Site Manager

Kent
Salary: TBA
Commercial Window Site Manager You will be responsible for overseeing installations of PVCu and aluminium products on refurbishment and new build contracts across the South of England. This role involves arranging and taking deliveries, liasing with Constructors, RLO's and the public, organising the workforce and inspecting completed works for handovers. Attention to detail, enthusiasm and organisation skills are important. Experience is preferred but is not essential. NVQ training will be provided as will as a company car, pension and attractive salary package. Please apply by CV and covering letter to the Contracts Department at 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Taxi Drivers

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Full & part time taxi drivers required. www.a2cabs.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Elaine
A2 Cabs Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 431500
Email elaine@a2cabs.co.uk

HGV 1-2 and 7.5T DRIVERS

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
HGV 1-2 & 7.5T DRIVERS WANTED URGENT ONGOING CONTRACT - NIGHTS & WEEKENDS - MAIDSTONE AREA OTHER WORK AVAILABLE IN ESSEX & KENT AREA TOO!!! PLEASE CALL - 0208 517 8165 BETWEEN 9am - 5pm AND ASK FOR COLIN OR SENAD Email: driving@localstaffhire.co.uk LSH DRIVING DIVISION AGENCY
To apply/more information:
Local Staff Hire
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 517 8165
Email
driving@localstaffhire.co.uk

Sales Consultant

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Baileys Nissan,Canterbury require a Sales Consultant Motor Trade experience essential of both Car and Commercial vehicles. The

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position covers the sale of both New and Approved Used vehicles. Apply with your CV either in Writing to Brian Smith,Dealer Principal Baileys Nissan Westminster Road Vauxhall Industrial Estate Canterbury CT1 1YY or e-mail brian.smith@ baileysnissan.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Baileys Nissan
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email brian.smith@ baileysnissan.co.uk

Minibus Driver and Maintenance

Tonbridge
Salary: £16,793 - £18,471
Closing Date: Friday 16th October 2009
Minibus Driver and Maintenance (Kent Scheme 5 £16,793 - £18,471) FULL TIME Hours to be worked flexible in order to meet the complex needs of the students. Clean driving licence is essential; PCV driving licence and trade qualification are desirable. Valence School is a KCC all age residential school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties. Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting every student's welfare. We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check. For further information and an application form, please contact Lee-Anne Fossett. Closing date for applications is Friday 16th October 2009. Valence School, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN Tel:- 07887 727182 Fax: 01959-565046 e-mail: vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07887 727182
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Self–Employed Site Operator

Kent
Salary: No Ceiling on your earnings
Self-Employed Site Operator required for the Kent area We are the world's largest independent car wash company with a growing team of 320 successful self-employed conveyor car wash operators. We are looking for hard working and motivated selfemployed operators. You will be your own boss, building, running and developing your own successful business, backed by the support and training offered by arc carwash. A generous commission is paid daily for each car washed and you will have the opportunity to increase your earnings by offering valeting services. There is no ceiling on your earnings and your start-up costs are low. Interested in joining our winning team? Please visit www.arc-carwash.co.uk for further details, alternatively call 01494 897450 or email renata-moniak@imo-carwash.co.uk for an application pack. Opportunities are available to both male and female candidates.
To apply/more information:
ARC Carwash
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01494 897450
Email renata-moniak@ imo-carwash.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Massage Therapist

Canterbury
Salary: 8 - 22 k per annum
Closing Date: 12/10/ 2009
Positon available at Kent's leading Spinal Health Care Practice in Canterbury. We are looking for hardworking and motivated massage therapists who are: Enthusiastic and committed to helping people Organised and efficient A Team Player Driven to attain self improvement and success Must have basic Massage qualification further in house training given Basic computer skills preferable No Clinical experience necessary as full training will be given NEW GRADUATES WELCOME! Apply for this position if you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing Earning ability fromm £8000 - £22000 per annum If you think you have what we are looking for, please apply in writing with your C.V. to Recruitment Manager: Lesley Spicer, The Wellness Practice LTD Blean Canterbury Kent CT2 9EB.
To apply/more information:
Lesley Spicer
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: masthe 001
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

HOME HELP

Sevenoaks
Salary: £7.24 per hour
HOME HELP for Sheltered Housing apartments in central Sevenoaks £7.24 per hour 22 hours a week (9am - 2.30pm Tuesday to Friday - with some possible flexibility) Duties will include general cleaning in residents flats, shopping, laundry etc. Pension scheme, free parking on site, Company sick pay after 6 mths, health plan. For details please ring Jay Drake, Personnel Manager on 01732 458762 We will apply for an Enhanced CRB Disclosure for this post.
To apply/more information:
Rockdale House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 458762
Email enquiries@rockdale.org.uk

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS

Thanet
Salary: £11,620–£ 19,500 PA
RESIDENTIAL VACANCIES THANET AREA SALARY RANGE £ 11.620 - £ 19,500 PA PLUS INCREMENTS. WE REQUIRE RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS – ALL LEVELS UP TO AND INCLUDING DEPUTY MANAGERS - TO WORK IN OUR NEW HOME. QUALIFICATIONS: NVQ 3 OR EQUIVALENT PREFERRED. HOWEVER TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED FOR APPLICANTS WITH EVIDENT POTENTIAL AND / OR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE. CONTACT OUR SERVICES MANAGER ON 01227 369089 Email: info@benecareltd.co.uk FOSTERING APPLICATIONS ARE WELCOMED FROM EXPERIENCED OR NEW FOSTER CARERS. WE ALSO REQUIRE QUALIFIED FORM F1 ASSESSORS AND INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKERS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR OUR EXISTING CARERS. CONTACT OUR SERVICES MANAGER ON: 01227 362510. Email : info@benecarefostering.co.uk www.benecareltd.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Bene Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 369089
Email info@benecareltd.co.uk

FORM F1 ASSESSORS

Kent
Salary: TBA
RESIDENTIAL VACANCIES THANET AREA SALARY RANGE £ 11.620 - £ 19,500 PA PLUS INCREMENTS. WE REQUIRE RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS - ALL LEVELS UP TO AND INCLUDING DEPUTY MANAGERS - TO WORK IN OUR NEW HOME. QUALIFICATIONS: NVQ 3 OR EQUIVALENT PREFERRED. HOWEVER TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED FOR APPLICANTS WITH EVIDENT POTENTIAL AND / OR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE. CONTACT OUR SERVICES MANAGER ON 01227 369089 Email: info@benecareltd.co.uk FOSTERING APPLICATIONS ARE WELCOMED FROM EXPERIENCED OR NEW FOSTER CARERS. WE ALSO REQUIRE QUALIFIED FORM F1 ASSESSORS AND INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKERS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR OUR EXISTING CARERS. CONTACT OUR SERVICES MANAGER ON: 01227 362510. Email : info@benecarefostering.co.uk www.benecareltd.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Bene Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 362510.
Email info@benecarefostering.co.uk

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INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKERS

Kent
Salary: TBA
RESIDENTIAL VACANCIES THANET AREA SALARY RANGE £ 11.620 - £ 19,500 PA PLUS INCREMENTS WE REQUIRE RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS - ALL LEVELS UP TO AND INCLUDING DEPUTY MANAGERS - TO WORK IN OUR NEW HOME. QUALIFICATIONS: NVQ 3 OR EQUIVALENT PREFERRED. HOWEVER TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED FOR APPLICANTS WITH EVIDENT POTENTIAL AND / OR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE. CONTACT OUR SERVICES MANAGER ON 01227 369089 Email: info@benecareltd.co.uk FOSTERING APPLICATIONS ARE WELCOMED FROM EXPERIENCED OR NEW FOSTER CARERS. WE ALSO REQUIRE QUALIFIED FORM F1 ASSESSORS AND INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKERS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR OUR EXISTING CARERS. CONTACT OUR SERVICES MANAGER ON: 01227 362510. Email : info@benecarefostering.co.uk www.benecareltd.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Bene Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 362510.
Email info@benecarefostering.co.uk

Helpline Volunteers

Canterbury
Salary: NA
For women and girls who are survivors of rape or childhood sexual abuse Helpline Volunteers We are currently looking for female helpline volunteers. We offer a free training course which consists of one evening a week for 10 weeks and will start 3rd November 2009. Counselling Training with: Louise MacKinney BA (Hons), MSc, DipCouns, MBACP (Snr.Accred), UKCP Only suitable for qualified Counsellors (or in final year of Diploma) Starting January 2010 consisting of 30 hours over 8 evenings and 2 Saturdays Cost is £200 which can be refunded if the Counsellor completes 50hrs counselling for East Kent Rapeline. For an application form for either course please contact: Kate or Debbie on 01227 451753 or E-mail: info@eastkentrapeline.com Section 7.2(d) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 applies. Charity No 1017581.
To apply/more information:
East Kent Rapeline
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 451753
Email info@eastkentrapeline.com

Assistant Manager

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check.
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email cumbriahouse@ ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

Support Worker

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Forward Care (Residential) Ltd Providing Residential Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities We currently require a Support Worker to cover shifts for Nights. To work 3 to 4 Nights per week All posts requires a NVQ Level 2 required minimum of 6 months experience Interested candidates should apply in writing enclosing a recent CV. Administrative Manager - Christine Morgan Hill Farm 15 Keycol Hill Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8LZ Previous applicants need not apply.
To apply/more information:
Forward Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Support Workers

Medway
Salary: TBA
Due to continuing growth we are recruiting Support Workers required to work in Medway Towns and Maidstone. Hours: full-time, part-time, as and when basis. Car driver with own transport essential. Presland Care provides quality support to enable people to remain independent and live in their own homes. For an application form please contact Jane or Rita on 01634 673333 Email: info@preslandcare.co.uk. We are actively encouraging equal opportunities. Successful applications will be dependent on a clear enhanced CRB check and two satisfactory references.
To apply/more information:
Presland Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 673333
Email info@preslandcare.co.uk

Registered Nurse

Romney Marsh
Salary: £146.90 per night
Bethany Lodge, Dymchurch Requires. Registered Nurse Friday Night duty To join our team in caring for 24 physically disabled adults. £146.90 per night 8pm to 8am Please tel: 01303 872289 for further details and application form.
To apply/more information:
Bethany Lodge/Bethany House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 872289
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Project Officer - Margate Drop-In

Margate
Salary: £20791 pro rata
Closing Date: 30/10/09
Margate Drop-In Centre - Project Officer Margate Drop-In Centre is a welcoming safe place run by learning disabled people for people with disabilities. To meet friends, get information and advice to help with living in the community. We are looking for a competent self motivated person to work alongside people with a learning disability on a project to review the Margate Drop In Centre. In this role you will be required to develop, lead and support the drop in committee to redefine the future purpose and model for the Drop In. Facilitate meetings, create and develop plans and other supporting material presenting these in a variety of appropriate formats. Excellent communication and networking skills are required along with a good understanding of the national legislation for people with a learning disability. Although the post holder will be employed by East Kent Mencap they will work directly to the Drop In committee, with input from other stakeholders. Being holders of the Positive about Disabled People award, disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria will be offered an interview in every circumstance. Applications must be via application form. For further information or to request an application form please contact: Lynda Salisbury - Office Co-ordinator on 01843-224482 Interviews for this post will be held on 20th November 2009. Salary: £20,791 pro rata Hours: 22 hours per week (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) Duration: 6 Months. Location: Margate Drop-In Centre. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal records Bureau.
To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: DP00001
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury@ eastkentmencap.co.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

TELESALES

Margate
Salary: £300-£500pw
TELESALES £300-£500pw and more! NO EXPERIENCE? FULL TRAINING PROVIDED!! Experienced Telesales up to £800pw and more! Basic plus bonus plus commission. Rapidly expanding company based in Margate seeks positive and self-motivated individuals to sell our to market new exciting product to UK businesses over the phone. Mon-Fri, 09.00 - 17.00 only Contact James on 020 7482 8895 or by e-mail with cv at info@cciglobal.eu
To apply/more information:
CCI
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7482 8895
Email info@cciglobal.eu

SALES AGENTS

Folkestone
Salary: OTE £15k
Closing Date: 23 October 2009
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To apply/more information:
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Tel: 01303 774888
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SALES AGENTS (OUTBOUND)

Folkestone
Salary: OTE £15k
Closing Date: 23 October 2009
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PUBLIC NOTICES

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK MANAGING DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION – HEARING SESSIONS

The Independent Examination under Regulation 34 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Development)(England) Regulations 2004 for the Managing Development and the Environment Development Plan Document will commence at 10 am on Wednesday 25 November and continue on Thursday 26 November, Tuesday 1 December and Wednesday 2 December 2009 at the Council Offices, TMBC, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill. West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ.

Morning sessions will start at 10am and afternoon sessions at 2pm. Mike Moore BA (Hons) MRTPI MCIT MIHT is the person appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to carry out the examination. For further details, contact the Programme Officer, Lynette Benton. Tel: (01732) 876018 email: programmeofficer@tmbc.gov.uk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
FOOTPATH MR598 KINGS HILL
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2009

The above named Order (hereinafter referred to as the Order) was made on 6 October 2009. The effect of the Order will be to divert that part of the public footpath MR598 at Kings Hill, which commences at point A (NGR TQ 6690 5447) and runs in a south westerly direction for approximately 10 metres to point B (NGR TQ 6689 5447) to a new length of footpath numbered MR598, with a width of 1.7 metres commencing at point C (NGR TQ 6691 5447) and running in a south westerly direction for approximately 10 metres to point D (NGR TQ 6691 5446) all as shown on the Order Plan.

All directions are general and all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and plan have been placed on deposit along with an Explanatory Statement and may be inspected free of charge during normal office hours at the Council's offices at Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling. Copies of the Order and plan may be purchased.

Any representations or objections to the Order may be sent in writing to the Chief Solicitor at the address below and should arrive not later than 9 November 2009 and should state the grounds on which they are made. If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

David Hughes, Chief Executive
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council,
Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4LZ

Dated 6 October 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MUNDAY BOIS ROAD, EGERTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs to areas of subsidence and structural failure, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Munday Bois Road, Egerton, between the junctions with Rock Hill Road and Newland Green Lane, on or after 26 October 2009, for an estimated period of 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Rock Hill Road, Stone Hill Road, New Road, Egerton Road, Forge Hill, Smarden Road, The Pinnock and Munday Bois Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(B2067 RUCKINGE ROAD, BILSINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of repairs to areas of carriageway failure and subsidence, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on the B2067 Ruckinge Road, Bilsington, between the junctions with Marsh Road, Ruckinge and Ashford Road, Bilsington, on or after 26 October 2009, for an estimated period of 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via B2067 Ruckinge Road, B2067 Hamstreet Road, B2067 Ruckinge Road, Cock Lane, B2067 The Street, Ashford Road, Hamstreet Road, Capel Road, Stone Cross Road, Ashford Road and Ruckinge Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHURCH LANE, WHITSTABLE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on the whole length of Church Lane, Whitstable using a rolling road closure on or after 28 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days between the hours of 9:00am and 3:00pm or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Faversham Road, Joy Lane, A290 Borstal Hill, A2990 Thanet Way.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNCTION OF SCHOOL LANE AND SANDY LANE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic 10m up School Lane from its junction with Sandy Lane and 5m up Sandy Lane from its junction with School Lane.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Southfleet Road, Betsham Road, Park Corner Road and Sandy Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the completion of remedial works on a defective carriageway patch.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CARLTON AVENUE, STONE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Carlton Avenue, Stone between its junctions with London Road to Hayes Road.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned commence on 30th October 2009 and planned to last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: London Road, St James Lane and Hayes Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMON LANE, WILMINGTON (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Common Lane, Wilmington between its junctions with High Road/Broad Lane to its junction with Parsons Lane.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: High Road, Church Hill, Hawley Road, Oakfield Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate reconstruction works to a damaged speed ramp and speed cushion.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SCHOOL LANE, HIGHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on School Lane, Higham, as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as noted in Schedule 1.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate reconstruction works to damaged speed cushions.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
School Lane, Higham	Just north of junction with Steadman Close	26th October for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Hermitage Road, Lower Rochester Road and Chequers Street
School Lane, Higham	Outside No. 10 Alexander Cottages	26th October for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Hermitage Road, Lower Rochester Road and Chequers Street

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
WHITE HILL ROAD, MEOPHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on White Hill Road Meopham between its junctions with Harvel lane to the junction with Horns Oak Road.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 29th October and last 5 days between 0900 - 1500. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Harvel Street, Dean lane, Chandlers Road, Priestwood, Horns Oak Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gully cleansing.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VINTERS ROAD, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC & SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Vinters Road outside Huntsman's Cottage on or after Sunday 29th November 2009 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed. The one way order is temporarily suspended during the closure to allow for access.

The alternative route for the above restriction is westbound via Huntsman Lane, A20 Ashford Road, A249 Albion Place and eastbound via A249 Albion Place, Andrew Boughton Way, A20 Ashford Road, Huntsman Lane.

W. W. Martin (Thanet) Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for a mobile crane to assist the dismantling of a tower crane. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Julia Robinson on 01843 591584.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CARING LANE, THURNHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Caring Lane, Thurnham on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 3 working days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for southbound traffic via A20 Ashford Road, Old Mill Road, Forge Lane and for northbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for gully cleansing. Should you require any further information the contact is Liz Dracup on 08458 247800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Sevenoaks as noted in the attached schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as per the attached schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gully cleansing and drainage works.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Rowdow, Otford	From Pilgrims Way East to Birchin Cross Road	28th October 2009 for 3 days between 0900 - 1500	Pilgrims way East, A225 Shoreham Road, Frackenden Lane, Rowdow Lane
Pilgrims Way East, Otford to Kemsing	Section 1 – From A225 Station Road / Shoreham Road to Beechy Lees Road Section 2 – From Beechy Lees Road to Childsbridge Lane Section 3 – From Childsbridge Lane to The Landway Section 4 – From The Landway to Cotmans Ash Lane	16th November 2009 for 10 weeks	Section 1 and 2 – A225 station Road / Sevenoaks Road / Otofrd Road, A25 Seal Road / High Street and Childsbridge Lane Section 3 – Childsbridge Lane, West End and The Landway Section 4 – The Landway, West End / High Street and Cotmans Ash Lane

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CASTLE HILL, HARTLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Castle Hill, Hartley as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in schedule 1. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Kent Highway Services and Freedom Powerlines.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Castle Hill, Hartley	Whole length	26th October 2009 for 2 days between 09.15 – 15.30 hours	Valley Road, Fawkham Road, B260 Main Road and Hartley Road
Castle Hill, Hartley	From junction with Ash Road up to the crossing with 1 way lane leading to the school	28th October 2009 for 2 days	Fawkham Road, B260 Main Road, Hartley Road, Ash Road and Castle Hill

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(ELHAM PARK, STELLING MINNIS) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because BT overhead cable maintanance works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Elham Park, Stelling Minnis from the junction with Gildridge Hill to the junction with Park Gate Hill on 12 October 2009 for an estimated period of 5 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Gildridge Hill, Fryarne Park, Wheelbarrow Town, Droveway, Clavertye, Exted Hill, Park Lane and Park Gate Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PLEYDELL GARDENS, FOLKESTONE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical and gas connection works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Pleydell Gardens, Folkestone from junction with Cheriton Place to the junction with Shakespeare Terrace on 5 October 2009 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Cheriton Place, Sandgate Road and Shakespeare Terrace. To allow access to the north car park entrance, there will be a temporary suspension of the existing one way order on Pleydell Gardens from the junction with Shakespeare Terrace to the junction with Cheriton Place. This temporary suspension will cease on completion of the works. ME14 1XQ

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(WELL ROAD, QUEENBOROUGH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to repair damage to kerbs, carriageway and footway, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Well Road, Queenborough between the junction with Castle Street and the garages, on or after 12 October 2009, for an estimated period of 4 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Castle Street, Chalk Road and North Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHURCH ROAD, MURSTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to resurface a defective carriageway, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Road, Murston, between the junctions with Dolphin Road and Tonge Road, on or after 30 October 2009, for an estimated period of 2 nights or until the works are complete. It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 6.30 pm and 11.00 pm.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Dolphin Road, Castle Road, Eurolink Way, Crown Quay Lane, St Michael's Road, East Street, Canterbury Road and Murston Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(NOREEN AVENUE, MINSTER-ON-SEA) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to resurface a defective carriageway, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Noreen Avenue, Minster-on-Sea, between the junctions of The Broadway and Magpie Court, on or after 29 October 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Broadway, Minster Road, Sunnyside Avenue, and Scrapsgate Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HIGHSTED ROAD AND STOCKERS HILL, SITTINGBOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of resurfacing works to repair the defective road surface, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic at the junction with Highsted Road and Stockers Hill, Sittingbourne, on or after 26 October 2009, for an estimated period of 1 day or until the works are complete.

The alternative routes for through traffic will be (a) for Highsted Road, via Bell Road, Woodstock Road, Broadoak Road, and Highsted Valley; (b) for Stockers Hill via Green Lane, Church Street, The Street, Fox Hill, Canterbury Road, East Street, South Avenue, Stanhope Road, Bell Road, Woodstock Road and Cromer Road.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HAWLEY SQUARE, MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Hawley Square, Margate from between the Education Centre & Number 16 on or after 19 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Hawley Square, Churchfields Place, Churchfields Street, St Johns Street and Addington Street. In the District of Thanet.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HAINE ROAD, RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because installation of traffic calming works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Haine Road, Ramsgate from South roundabout adjacent to Spratling Street junction and Toby Inn roundabout at junction with A256 Haine Road/New Haine Road on or after 12 October 2009 for an estimated period of 5 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A256 New Haine Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(ALBION STREET, BROADSTAIRS) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Improvement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Albion Street, Broadstairs from entire length on or after 12 October 2009 for an estimated period of twelve weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Charlotte Street, York Street, York Avenue, High Street, Carlton Avenue, Lindenthorpe Road and Nelson Place.

This order will come into force on Monday 12 October 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period for a maximum period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CECILIA GROVE, BROADSTAIRS) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas main replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Cecilia Grove, Broadstairs from its junction with Beacon Road on or after 12 October 2009 for an estimated period of 4 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Beacon Road and Grange Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MELBOURNE AVENUE, RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Melbourne Avenue, Ramsgate from number 69 to number 74 Melbourne Avenue on or after 12 October 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via St Johns Avenue, The Centre and Princess Margaret Avenue, signs to be placed at both ends of Melbourne Avenue advising of road closure, no access from 9am to 4pm.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BUSH AVENUE, RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Bush Avenue, Ramsgate from the junction with Newington Road to number 8 Bush Avenue then from number 38 to and including the roundabout on or after 14 October 2009 for an estimated period of 2 nights or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Newington Road, Manston Road, Princess Margaret Avenue, The Centre, Kimberley Road, Brandon Road and Riversdale Road, signs to be placed at both ends of Bush Avenue advising of night time closure.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PARK LANE, BIRCHINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because flint wall repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Park Lane, Birchington from outside 7-9 Park Lane, Birchington on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Park Lane, Brunswick Road, Park Avenue and Canterbury Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHILTON LANE, RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Chilton Lane, Ramsgate outside Chilton School on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 1 day or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via London Road, Goodwin Road and Downs Road.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 – SECTION 116 STOPPING UP OF LAND AT PORTLAND COURT, RAMSGATE

I am giving notice that the Kent County Council propose to make an application to the Magistrates sitting at Margate Magistrates Court on 8 December 2009 at 9:30 for an Order under Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 to extinguish highway rights on the grounds that they are unnecessary on land at Portland Court, Ramsgate as shown in red on the plan on deposit.

A copy of this notice and the plan referred to are on deposit, and can be seen during normal office hours, at the main reception of Kent Highway Services at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX and at the offices of Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate.

If you require further information or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Nicolette Davis of Kent Highway Services either in writing at the address given below, or by telephone on 08458 247 800 (24 hour contact centre).

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because planing and surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Margate as described in columns 1 and 2 of the schedule to this order on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 nights or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Schedule

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes	Duration
Northdown Park Road	170m to the West of and 40m to the East of the junction with Northumberland Avenue. Total length 210m	Eastbound Laleham Road, Millmead Road Westbound Laleham Road, Millmead Road, Upper Dane Road	3 nights
Northumberland Avenue	60m North from the junction with Northdown Park Road	Northdown Road, Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Northdown Park Road	

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(GIGHILL ROAD, LARKFIELD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Gighill Road, Larkfield between Leybourne Way and Lunsford Lane on or after Wednesday 28th October 2009 for a period of up to 5 nights or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via Leybourne Way, Lunsford Lane and for northbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(QUARRY HILL ROAD, TONBRIDGE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Quarry Hill Road, at the roundabout with the junction of Brook Street on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 2 nights between 20:00hrs and 06:00hrs or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for London southbound traffic via A2014 Pembury Road, A21 By-Pass. Tunbridge Wells southbound traffic via A2014 Pembury Road, A21 Castle Hill, A264 Pembury Road, Sandhurst Road, North Farm Road, High Brooms Road, Yew Tree Road, A26 London Road, Quarry Hill Road and northbound vice versa. A21 northbound traffic via A21, A2014 Pembury Road. A21 westbound traffic specifically to Brook Street via A26 London Road, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, Penshurst Road, Haysden Lane, Upper Haysden Lane, Brook Street and eastbound vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC, SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in Column 3 of that Schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 26th October 2009 and will be valid for a maximum period of up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The anticipated dates of works are listed in the first column.

Specified road and proposed start date and duration	The section affected	The alternative routes
C60 Ashes Lane, Hadlow 26th October 2009 for Duration of 10 Working Days, 08.00 – 17.00	Whole length. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via Higham Lane, Cuckoo Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road. West bound traffic vice versa
C36 The Hurst, Plaxtol 27th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 09.00 – 16.00	From Swanton Road to Old Soar Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	North bound traffic via Roughway Lane, Long Mill Lane, Allens Lane, Old Soar Road. South bound traffic vice versa
U1478 St Vincents Lane, Addington 28th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 08.00 – 17.00	From entrance to Keepers to entrance to the Village Hall. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via A20 London Road, Trottiscliffe Road, Park Road. West bound traffic vice versa
U1427 Platt House Lane, Stansted 29th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 08.00 – 17.00	From Vigo Road to Wrotham Hill. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	South bound traffic via Vigo Road, Stansted Hill, Plaxdale Green Road, Tumblefield Road, Wrotham Hill Road. North bound traffic vice versa
U1423 School Lane, Wouldham 30th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 08.00 – 17.00	From Pilgrims Way to Oldfield Drive. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via High Street, Knowle Road, Pilgrims Way. West bound traffic vice versa
U277 Castle Street, Tonbridge 15th November 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 09.00 – 16.00	From High Street to Bank Street. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	All traffic via High Street and Castle Street. One way restriction on Castle Street to be suspended and traffic to be controlled using stop and go

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Jez Massy on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(THE ROCKS ROAD, EAST MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on The Rocks Road, East Malling on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 1 day between 0900hrs and 1600hrs or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Chapel Street, Wateringbury Road, Sweets Lane and for westbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential highway improvement works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Jez Massy on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHAPMAN WAY, EAST MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Chapman Way, East Malling between the Backlands and Temple Way on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 7 Days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via New Road, London A20, Winterfield Lane and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

Environment agency apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for clearing and jetting through manholes. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Derek Petts on 07809875642

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(TAYLORS LANE, TROTTISCLIFFE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Taylors Lane, Trottiscliffe on or after Monday 12th October 2009 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via Vigo Hill, A227 Gravesend Road, A20 London Road, Trottiscliffe Road, Addington Lane, and for northbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PHILPOTS LANE, HILDENBOROUGH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Philpots Lane, Hildenborough on or after Monday 12th October 2009 for a period of up to 10 working days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via Watt's Cross Road, B245 London Road, Morley's Road, Scabharbour Road, Scabharbour Lane and for eastbound traffic via Coppings Road, Compasses Road, B2027 Penshurst Road, High Street, Hildenborough Road, Rings Hill.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

PUBLIC NOTICE
TO CLOSE RIDGE MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent. ME4 4TR intends to discontinue RIDGE MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL, Churchill Avenue, Chatham, ME5 0LA on 31 August 2010.

The proposal is to close Ridge Meadow Primary School in August 2010 and relocate pupils to neighbouring schools. This proposal is made in order to reduce surplus places and to ensure that the remaining provision in the area will be able to deliver efficient and effective education.

The local authority believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for the children with special educational needs (SEN) currently at Ridge Meadow Primary School because neighbouring schools will thereafter both have significantly larger overall budgets for SEN, and these significantly increased budgets will enable those schools to increase the standard, quality and range of their SEN provision, and improve such provision in the local area from its present levels.

Because of the close proximity of alternative places, we expect that the majority of pupils would be able to walk to school. Pupil's who meet the criteria would be entitled to free home to school transport.

This notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address www.medway.gov.uk/mpsc

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them in writing to Simon Trotter, Assistant Director Learning and Achievement, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR.

Signed: Rose Collinson
Director of Children &
Adults- learning and caring
Publication Date: 9 October 2009

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TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/02315/FL – 141 St Leonards Street West Malling Kent ME19 6PE – Mr Iannidinardo is applying for erection of summer house. Reason: CA LB HH

TM/09/02354/FL – 427 London Road Ditton Aylesford ME20 6DB – Mr A Bellamy is applying for proposed detached double garage. Reason: CA HH

TM/09/02396/LB – The Barn 8 Police Station Road West Malling Kent ME19 6LL – Mr Byatt is applying for Listed Building Application: Addition of oak framed and glazed lean to at rear of property. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/02383/FL – The Bower House Tonbridge Road Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9AJ – Mr And Mrs David Wilson are applying for alterations to existing playroom. Reason: CA LB HH

Reasons for the case being publicised:
LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 1 November 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
11 October 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS - In the Boroughs of Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone and Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGHS OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS MAIDSTONE, AND TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND 10MPH CONVOY WORKING SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of the Schedule 1 hereto and also prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic traveling at any speed greater than 10mph with the implementation of convoy working on the route described in Schedule 2.

The alternative route for each route described in Columns 1 & 2 of Schedule 1 hereto is described in Column 3 of that Schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 12th October 2009 and will be valid for a maximum period of up to 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The anticipated dates of works are listed in column 1.

Schedule 1

Specified road and proposed start date and duration	The section affected	The alternative routes
A26 London Road/ Eridge Road, Tunbridge Wells 2nd November 2009 for duration of up to 4 nights.	From A267 Nevill Street to Major Yorks Road.	North bound traffic via Major Yorks Road, A264 Bishops Down, Church Road, A26 London Road. South bound traffic vice versa.
A26 Eridge Road, Tunbridge Wells 2nd November 2009 for duration of up to 4 nights. (Not at same time as above)	From Linden Park Road to Major Yorks Road.	East bound traffic via A26 Eridge Road, Broadwater Down, A267 Frant Road, Nevill Street. West bound traffic vice versa.
A267 Frant Road/ Nevill Street, Tunbridge Wells 6th November 2009 for duration of up to 4 nights.	From Warwick Park to Rodmell Road.	North bound traffic via Broadwater Down, A26 Eridge Road, A267 Nevill Street. South bound traffic vice versa.
Quarry Road/ Grosvenor Bridge, Tunbridge Wells 12th November 2009 for duration of up to 4 nights.	Whole lengths from Camden Road to Upper Grosvenor Road.	North bound traffic via Camden Road, Victoria Road, Goods Station Road, Grosvenor Road, Upper Grosvenor Road. South bound traffic via Upper Grosvenor Road, Meadow Road, Goods Station Road, Victoria Road, Camden Road.
Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Road 16th November 2009 for duration of up to 3 days.	From Churn Lane to Knowle Road.	East bound traffic via Pearsons Green Road, Mile Oak Road, Pixot Hill, Crook Road, Yew Tree Green Road, B2162 Maidstone Road, Churn Lane. West bound traffic vice versa.
Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells 18th November 2009 for duration of up to 4 nights.	From Queens Road to Cambrian Road.	South bound traffic via Sandhurst Road, A264 Pembury Road, B2023 Prospect Road, A264 Calverley Road, Crescent Road, Church Road, A26 London Road, Grosvenor Road, Upper Grosvenor Road. North bound traffic vice versa but also using Meadow Road, Goods Station Road.
Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough 30th November 2009 for duration of up to 7 nights.	From Rings Hill/ Watts Cross Road to a point adjacent to property no. 23 Stocks Green Road.	East bound traffic via Rings Hill, Watts Cross Road, B245 London Road, Tonbridge Road, B2027 Leigh Road. West bound traffic vice versa.
Bell Road, Maidstone 12th October 2009 for duration of up to 2 days.	From Wallis Avenue (east) to and including the crossroads at junction with Francis Lane/ Brishing Lane.	West bound and eastbound traffic via Wallis Avenue.
A26 Tonbridge Road, Hadlow 1st December 2009 for duration of up to 7 nights.	From Blackmans Lane to Carpenters Lane.	Southwest bound traffic via A26 Hadlow High Street, Maidstone Road, A228 Seven Mile Lane, Boyle Way, Branbridges Road, Whetsted Road, B2017 Badsell Road, Five Oak Green Road, Tudeley Lane, Five Oak Green Road, A26 Woodgate Way, Vale Road, Cannon Lane, Hadlow Road, Cornwallis Avenue, Hadlow Road, Tonbridge Road. Northeast bound traffic vice versa.
Craddocks Lane, Staplehurst 14th October 2009 for duration of up to 4 days.	From Headcorn Road to Frittenden Road.	South bound traffic via Headcorn Road, A229 High Street, Frittenden Road. North bound traffic vice versa.
A229 Fairmeadow, Maidstone 12th October 2009 for a duration of up to 10 nights	From St Peters Bridge gyratory to Medway Street. (in both directions)	North bound traffic via A229 Fairmeadow, Bishops Way, Palace Avenue, Lower Stone Street, A249 Mote Road, Wat Tyler Way, Andrew Broughton Way, Albion Place, Sittingbourne Road, B2012 Holland Road, Well Road, Lower Boxley Road, Staceys Street, A229 Fairmeadow. South bound traffic vice versa.
Workhouse Lane, East Farleigh 13th October 2009 for a duration of up to 4 days	Whole length	West bound traffic via Dean Street, B2163 Heath Road, Stockett Lane. East bound traffic vice versa.
A229 Palace Avenue/ Lower Stone Street, Maidstone 15th October 2009 for a duration of up to 5 nights	From public car park entrance to Romney Place.	South bound traffic via A229 Bishops Way, Broadway, St Peters Bridge, Fairmeadow, B2012 Stacey Street, Lower Boxley Road, Well Road, Holland Road, A249 Sittingbourne Road, Albion Place, Andrew Broughton Way, Ashford Road, Wat Tyler Way, Mote Road.
Union Street, Maidstone 21st October 2009 for a duration of up to 3 nights	From Wheeler Street to A249 Sittingbourne Road	East bound traffic via Wheeler Street, Holland Road, A249 Sittingbourne Road. West bound traffic vice versa.
Sandling Lane, Maidstone 26th October 2009 for a duration of up to 4 nights	From Boxley Road to Wordsworth Road	West bound traffic via Penenden Heath Road, A249 Sittingbourne Road, B2012 Holland Road, Well Road, Lower Boxley Road, Stacey Street, A229 Royal Engineers Road, Chatham Road, Running Horse Roundabout, Sandling Lane. East bound traffic vice versa.
Mote Road/Mote Avenue, Maidstone 7th October 2009 for a duration of up to 4 nights	From Chancery Lane to Greenside.	East bound traffic via A249 Mote Road, A229 Upper Stone Street, Loose Road, Park Way, West Park Road, Willow Way or when access to Hastings Road is available via Hastings Road, St Phillips Avenue, Lower Road, Upper Road, Willow Way. West bound traffic via Willow Way, West Park Road, Park Way, Armstrong Road, Postley Road, A229 Hayle Road, College Road or when access from Hastings Road is available via Willow Way, Upper Road, Lower Road, St Phillips Avenue, Hastings Road.
Haste Hill Road, Boughton Monchelsea 29th October 2009 for a duration of up to 4 days	From Hubbards Lane to Church Street.	East bound traffic via Hubbards Lane, B2163 Heath Road, Church Street. West bound traffic vice versa.
B2010 Yalding Hill/ Smiths Hill, Yalding 1st December 2009 for a duration of up to 3 nights.	From Shingle Barn Lane to Small Profits.	South bound traffic via B2010 Smiths Hill, Lower Road, Teston Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road, B2015 Bow Road, Maidstone Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane, Lees Road, B2010 Yalding High Street. North bound traffic vice versa. The environmental weight restriction on the B2015 Nettlestead will be temporarily suspended while these works are in progress

Schedule 2

C97 Boxley Road, Maidstone 26th October 2009 for a duration of up to 4 nights	From Boxley Close to Sandling Lane. To be in operation at times when indicated by signage on site.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, the Kent Highway Services contact is Graham Killick of Jacobs on 01622 666337.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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All new 5-Series hatched by BMW

By **STEVE LOADER**

GERMANY'S upmarket trio of brands have always been sniffy about hatchbacks.

The boardrooms of BMW, Audi and Mercedes-Benz may sanction such a convenience for models just within reach of the hoi polloi, or whatever they call the commoners in Deutchland, but not for motors carrying the elite.

Now it seems they're all at, well Audi and BMW at any rate and who would bet against M-B coming in soon – the three-pointed star brand has already shown it cannot resist a market niche.

To be fair to Audi and BMW, they have also 'gone hatchback' in style; the former has the A5 Sportback, while BMW has just launched the 5-Series Gran Turismo.

Versatility

However, you will have noticed neither is called a hatchback – it's too 'common' – yet both marques want to suggest these cars give upmarket buyers a chance to downsize without loss of style, while hatchback versatility balances the loss of a bigger boot.

BMW has also tried to muddy marketing waters by making the back end dual purpose – opening as a boot or as a full hatch – and no doubt studiously ignoring the fact that this feature was pioneered by value brand Skoda's latest Superb executive flagship.

The GT (priced from £40,800) heads and will be the advance guard for the next generation 5-Series range.

BMW describes it as blending the "luxurious interior of a BMW 7-Series, while at the same time giving the functionality of a BMW 5-Series Touring or X5 (SUV)".

The GT can be specified with limo-style twin rear seats or three across the back and these slide to maximise legroom or boot space according to priority. They also fold, but I can't honestly see many GT owners using this to move furniture from place to place.

Seeking to tick yet one more box with fickle buyers, the seats are also raised a little higher as if to tempt buyers switching from an SUV/4x4, as well as aiding entry and exit.

Three powertrains are available at present: a relatively frugal 2,993cc diesel – the likely best seller by a mile – a 2,979cc petrol model that is slightly faster, but less economical and an egomaniac's V8.

BMW says the V8 offers supercar performance, though electronically limited to a 155mph maximum anyway and with consumption that is increasingly hard to justify. And the point is…?

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Per month only	£110.20	Deposit	£1500
Number of payments	36	Optional final payment	£4145
MRR OTR price* (includes compulsory £120 roadside assistance)	£8885	Amount of credit	£7265
		Agreed annual mileage (excess mileage charges apply)	6000
Total amount payable including optional final payment	£9612.20	Excess mileage charge per mile	8.08p

CITROËN C2

CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES ELECT 3

CITROËN C2 1.6i 16V 125HP VTS		4.9% APR typical*	
Per month only	£249.99	Deposit	£1750
Number of payments	36	Optional final payment	£3996
MRR OTR price* (includes compulsory £120 roadside assistance)	£13685	Amount of credit	£11815
		Agreed annual mileage (excess mileage charges apply)	6000
Total amount payable including optional final payment	£14745.64	Excess mileage charge per mile	2.3p

NEW CITROËN C3 PICASSO

CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES ELECT 3

NEW CITROËN C3 PICASSO 1.4 16V VTi 95HP EXCLUSIVE		4.9% APR typical*	
Per month only	£226.01	Deposit	£2000
Number of payments	36	Optional final payment	£4926
MRR OTR price* (includes compulsory £120 roadside assistance)	£13935	Amount of credit	£11815
		Agreed annual mileage (excess mileage charges apply)	6000
Total amount payable including optional final payment	£15062.36	Excess mileage charge per mile	2.54p

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58 payments of £199.71
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Nissan 'Cubing' ugliness in the pursuit of cult following

NISSAN'S new Cube won't win any beauty titles, but it could be the Japanese marque's answer to cult stars like the BMW Mini, Fiat 500 and Kia Soul.

Due here at the end of the year, it is actually the third generation Cube; since the original launched 10 years ago on the Japanese home market, it has been a huge hit.

The new car repeats a 'wheel-at-each-corner' format of long wheelbase relative to overall length (2.53m and 3.98m) plus wide track, boding well for passenger and load space.

Nissan claims the car seats five in "lounge-like comfort" and the ruler-straight styling also lends itself to entertaining – and lucrative – customisation.

A sliding rear bench can be raised 'theatre' style for those behind to look over the heads of those in front.

Generous light from big vertical windows can be enhanced by a large sunroof – a Japanese-style 'shoji' rice paper shade is an option available for this – and MPV appeal is boosted by lots of stowage ideas.

Two engine options are offered - a 1.5-litre diesel and 1.6-litre petrol – but an all-electric Cube concept has also been unveiled.

More get up and go for Twingo

WE HAVE said for some time that Renault must boost the appeal of the Twingo with a halo model and here it is – the Renaultsport 133 Cup hot hatch.

It is intended to complement the bigger Clio Renaultsport Cup (£15,750), with a similarly focused driving experience, but less equipment and a lower price.

The Cup, priced at £11,795, is also £700 less than the standard Twingo Renaultsport, losing air con, automatic headlamp and wiper operation, extra tinted rear windows and the Twingo's useful pair of individual sliding rear seats.

But it gains the Cup suspension pack as standard – normally a £650 option on the regular Twingo Renaultsport.

The Cup chassis sits lower than the standard Renaultsport setting and, with tuned damper and springs, delivers better body control for keen drivers.

The car also makes a clear statement of intent with anthracite 17-inch alloys. Deliveries start on 1 November.

'New' Golf estate?

VOLKSWAGEN has unveiled a new Golf Estate, or has it?

Look more closely and this is actually a revamp of the Golf Mark V estate with Mark VI cosmetics.

Does it matter?

Well, both Golf generations share the same chassis and it is pretty well the best in sector, but the Mark VI hatchback launched early this year set new standards in cabin refinement and quality for this sector; buyers of the 'new' estate may lose out on much of that when it arrives in January.

Prices start at £16,380.

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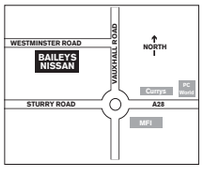

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO_2 emissions 119g/km.

*Discount price of £4,395 relates to Matiz 0.8 S 5dr model only (for Aveo 1.2 S 3dr £5,995). Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. The savings are against current MRP and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. At participating retailers only. *£2,000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. When traded in against a new car subject to conditions and whilst Government funding applies. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded in against a new vehicle subject to conditions. Offers apply to new vehicles ordered or registered between 01.10.09 and 31.12.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Extra savings provided by Chevrolet UK Ltd only. Cannot be used with any other offer. Available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other Sales categories are excluded. UK supplied vehicles only. Offer ends 31st December 2009. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands. (Chev81685)

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Hyundai i30 1.2: Urban 7.6 (37.2), Extra Urban 5.2 (54.3), Combined 6.1 (46.3), CO2 Emissions 145g/km.

Motability

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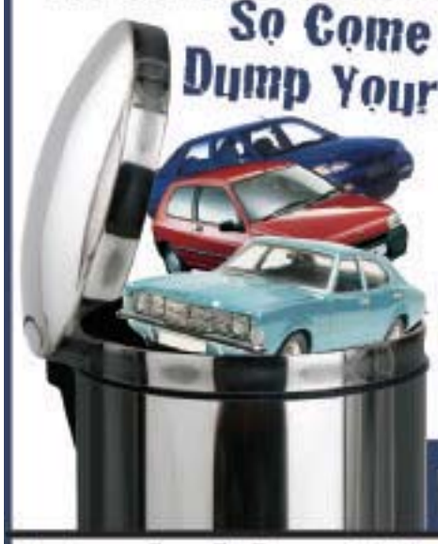

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Motability

The Official Fuel Consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km) for the Suzuki Grand Vitara Range are: Urban 10.5 - 14.4 (26.9 - 19.6), Extra Urban 7.5 - 8.3 (37.7 - 34.0), Combined 8.6 - 10.6 (32.8 - 26.7) and CO2 205 - 245 (g/km).
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SWITCH

Conventional Insight into

INSIGHT is a good name for a ground-breaking car, except that the latest incumbent was designed to be as conventional as possible.

It contrasts sharply with the original Insight launched here in 2000, when petrol-electric hybrids were frontier technology, highlighted by the Mark 1 Insight's slippery coupé lines and aerodynamic dish-shaped alloys and rear spats.

But just two seats and a bootload of batteries meant it was nowhere near as practical as its belated successor; the original was axed in 2005, though still commands healthy used prices through futuristic looks, rarity and low emissions that now qualify it for zero road tax.

Amazingly, that is something the 2009 Insight narrowly fails to do – CO2 emissions range from 101-105g/km depending on version – though one suspects Honda is reviewing how to enable the car to limbo beneath the 100g/km bar and save owners £35 a year.

But the Insight competes well anyway as a hybrid for the eco-conscious or hard-nosed buyers shopping for a VW Golf or Ford Focus.

And while Honda's former Civic IMA (Integrated Motor Assist) hybrid never quite challenged Toyota's more successful Prius, the Insight is more convincing thanks to a bigger cabin, hatchback layout and much-improved powertrain.

The Insight's IMA petrol-electric system is a 95 per cent rebuild, slashing bulk, manufacturing costs and levelling the playing field against 'eco' versions of conventional cars like the Golf BlueMotion and Focus ECOnetic diesels.

Priced from £15,990, with big savings on depreciation, Benefit in Kind taxation and everyday running costs, it should average well over 60mpg – verified by my week with the car – and really does now add up against the above rivals. It also undercuts its Prius arch-rival (from £18,590).

DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Honda Insight

Genuine

Honda is unlikely to have risked its reputation for reliability, so expect it to be bulletproof too, with Honda stating the batteries will outlast the car itself.

The Insight has a genuine five-seat cabin and a flat floor in the rear means the centre rear passenger seat does not feel cramped.

The boot is also big for the family hatchback class: 408 litres beats the Golf and Honda's own

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Official government fuel consumption figures (mpg/litres per 100km) for the smart fortwo cdi: urban 83.1/3.4, extra urban 88.3/3.2, combined 85.6/3.3, CO2 emissions 88 g/km.

Model featured is the new smart fortwo cdi cabriolet passion at £10,880.42 on the road (on the road price includes VAT, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, number plates, first registration fee and fuel). Including Crystal white paint at £0.00, Tridion safety cell in silver at £0.00 and Design beige interior at £0.00.

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the hybrid frontier

Civic (both 350), Toyota Auris (354), current Vauxhall Astra (302) and Ford Focus (396), but falls short of the slightly longer Prius (446).

It is not a stunning car to drive, but that pleasure will disappear generally as we enter a world of lower emissions and narrow energy-saving/lower rolling resistance tyres.

At least you get an entertaining dashboard, with eye-catching aids to help extract the best environmentally and financially from pairing a new 87bhp 1.3-litre engine and its now more compact 12bhp electric motor.

The latter might sound pathetic against its petrol partner, but the beauty of an electric motor is lots of grunt versus weight and that power is virtually instantaneous, where as the conventional engine needs to build power delivery.

Upweight

Not that the Insight encourages foot to the floor driving; whether you press the 'Econ' button for ultra-green mode or not – though it seems silly not to – you soon learn to use the throttle sensitively for a green glow of eco success rather than the blue of failure.

You also relax into gear-changing via the continuously variable (CVT) gearbox and become oblivious to the Insight's ability to reach 113mph and hit 62mph in a not unreasonable 12.5 seconds.

All of which leaves you pondering why Honda decided to include a 'Sport' button to upweight acceleration and gearshifting.

The car's slippery lines mean that it is mostly refined at speed, though the engine intrudes when under pressure.

Some drivers may also be irritated by the split rear screen compromising visibility.

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DrivingPortfolio

HONDA INSIGHT ES-T 1.3 IMA CVT £18,890 (INSIGHT PRICES FROM £15,990-TEST CAR)

Driving appeal	★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green	★★★★★
Road tax	£35/year
Best rival	Toyota Prius

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the Insight's …er, insight into a seemingly inevitable and less interesting driving future.

NOT SURE: many drivers will like the obscured rearward vision through the split screen tailgate.

REALLY LIKE: how Honda has pitched the Insight as a hybrid with conventional appeal and pricing

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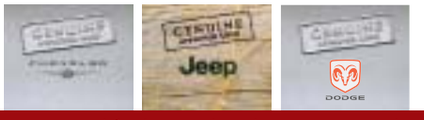

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AUDI

A3, TDI Dpf S Line 3dr, gk56ofp, remote central locking, immobiliser, full leather, abs, twin air bags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, climate control, cd player, radio, 18'' alloys, black, 88000 miles, £11999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

A4, S4 QUATTRO cabriolet, rv04uhh, remote central locking, immobiliser, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, auto lighting, front fog lamps, electric windows, power hood, electric mirrors, dual climate zones, cd player, radio, 18'' alloys, 4x4, red, 53000 miles, £13999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

Azure, V8 CONV AUTO SAT NAV, sn56ktx, only 15455 miles, 56 plate bentley, sat nav, ultrasonic park distance control with reversing camera, manufacturers service history, magnolia hide leather upholstery, blue roof, 19'' upgraded alloys, two tone leather steering wheel, bentley marque badges to waistrails and inset chrome strip, french navy carpets, chromed door mirror caps, drilled aluminium foot pedals, areosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, electric memory seats, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, power roof, remote key central locking, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, silverlake blue, £119000, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, 3.6 v6 auto saloon, 2005, silver metallic with black leather, 33500 miles, £7850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, Lt, 54314, 15'' alloys, blue, 1800 miles, £7995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE 5dr, ly57kgj, blue, 7000 miles, £5495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

TACUMA, CDX Plus, ca07wxk, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, folding rear seats, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, twin air bags, adjustable steering column, electric mirrors, stereo, radio, cd player, child locks, 16'' alloys, grey, 3000 miles, £4995, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

CROSSFIRE, 3.2 Auto, 2004, blue met, 42000 miles, £11798, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CITROEN

Berlingo, 1.6HDi 600Kg First Diesel, pas, drivers airbag, solid paint, service indicator, immobiliser, white, 51 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDi 600Kg Enterprise Diesel, gf08cnn, rear wiper, white, 10 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller / Freezer, 295180, cd player, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, brand new. delivery mileage. grp lined. hubbard fridge standby available if required (optional extra). over 50 fridge vans in stock. BHRV.co.uk, white, 15 miles, £9595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4 HDi SX, gk56psx, air conditioning, anti-lock brakes, atomic velour interior, audio steering wheel mounted controls, body coloured bumpers, driver seat height adjustment, driver, passenger and front side air bags, electricdoor mirrors, electronic brake force distribution, front electric windows, front fog lights, front/rear head restraints, immobiliser, power-assisted steering, radio/cd, rake/reach adjustable steering column/wheel, remote central door locking, spare wheel, speakers, black metallic, 38540 miles, £6285, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C2, Airplay Plus 3dr, gl57evr, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, air conditioning, stereo, electric front windows, trip computer, electric mirrors, automatic electric windows, radio, mp3 player, head restraints, cloth upholstery, ipod connectivity, isofix, air conditioning, full size spare wheel, rear wiper, rev counter, height/reach adjust steering wheel, height adjustable front seatbelts, locking fuel filler cap, service interval indicator, digital clock, pollen filter, automatic activation of hazard warning lights, twin rear fog/reversing lights, steering wheel mounted audio controls, pas variable, 4 three point inertia reel seatbelts, auto door+tailgate locking (when car in motion), storage compartment in tailgate, pack look c2, split opening tailgate, air recirculation system, 14'' steel wheels, front door pockets, high level third brake light, rear storage pockets, front seatbelt pretensioners with force limiters, deadlocks, tinted windows, audible speed warning programmable, black panel night illumination, drivers one touch window with anti-pinch feature, split folding rear seat, ticket holder inside windscreen, digital dashboard display, energy absorbing side impact protection, aluminium effect front vents, cargo strap fitted to boot floor, crystal translucent gear knob, 12v socket, aluminium silver, 3000 miles, £5995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

C2, Design 1124cc 3 door, 2005, cd player central locking driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, blue, 30450 miles, £4495, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

C3, SX 5dr, lv55gsz, remote central locking, immobiliser, velour trim, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, aluminium silver, 22000 miles, £5699, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

C3, 16v Exclusive 5dr, lv04lsu, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric windows, black, 31000 miles, £4999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto Hatch, de06vek, air conditioning, black, 31000 miles, £6495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

XSARA, PICASSO SX Auto, gu03 ytb, air conditioning, power steering, abs, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cruise control, centre armrest, traction control, twin air bags, cd player, radio, grey, 64800 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

LEGANZA, cdx auto, 1998, silver, 80000 miles, £595, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE 5dr, gl04zjy, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, power steering, rear wash/wipe, stereo, head restraints, folding rear seats, twin air bags, bright blue, 29000 miles, £2699, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

FIAT

DOBLO, 1.9 Multijet Dynamic 5dr [120] Diesel Estate, rv58jvf, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, rear headrests, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, service indicator, space saver spare wheel, lumbar support, immobiliser, front armrest, front head restraints, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, height adjustable drivers seat, beige metallic, 17250 miles, £8998, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DOBLO, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, av05nwj, bonhoffa conversion. hot cabinet. cold cabinet. 3x access hatches. hand wash. led internal lighting. white, 29000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, ea06xop, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, crossover black metallic, 26950 miles, £6996, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, SPORTING 16v 3dr, 1459461, power steering, cd player, electric front windows, air conditioning, remote central locking, abs, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, radio, electric mirrors, adjustable steering column, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, folding rear seats, colour coded body, twin air bags, central locking, 15'' alloys, titanium grey met. 40000 miles, £3999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.8TDCi Titanium 5dr*******SPORT PACK 3********, ng08hhr, 18 alloys, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking. insurance group:8, grey, 25693 miles, £12495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style 16v 3dr, fe06 vzk, power steering, abs, cd player, radio, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, mauve, 37700 miles, £5495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 16v Ghia 5dr, en05 wkt, full leather, air conditioning, abs, power steering, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, alloy wheels, silver, 48600 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Ghia 16v 5dr Auto, jm53 hmm, air conditioning, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, twin air bags, alloy wheels, blue, 38200 miles, £4995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 3DRSPORT PACK BLUETOOTH P/SENSORS, ea58oyb, quickclear heated screen, rear parking sensors, privacy glass, ford direct vehicle, esp, sport pack, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, spoiler, rear headrests, tinted glass, blue, 7000 miles, £12500, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 TDCI ZETEC 5DR [110] [DPF], aj58fvs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking.. grey, 26174 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style 5dr, ln57zfd, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, front fog lamps, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, curtain airbags, automatic electric windows, anti-theft system, child locks, cloth upholstery, pas, heated rear window, visible vehicle identification number, front variable intermittent wipers with electric wash, rear intermittent wiper with electric wash and auto reverse function, body colour bodyside mouldings, front and rear folding grab handles (coat hooks on rear), driver/passenger sunvisors with vanity mirrors + covers, anti submarining/fully reclining front seats, 60/40 split back and cushion rear seats with 2 height adjustable headrests, three rear inertia reel lap/diagonal seatbelts, instrument pointer hubs in satin aluminium finish, 4 speed fan with direction control + 2 side window demist vents, front overhead courtesy lights with theatre style dimming and delay, courtesy light in luggage compartment, gear lever knob with satin aluminium insert, centre console with front cupholders/pen holder/heating ducts to rear, lights on warning, digital clock, body colour door handles, body colour bumpers, front and rear door side impact beams, height adjustable front headrests, body colour electric adjustable heated door mirrors, illuminated heater controls, high mounted rear brake light, electric boot release, tie down hooks in luggage area, third fixed centre rear headrest, air recirculation control, driver/passenger front seatback pockets, rear bumper scratch pad moulding, pollen/active carbon filters, key operated locking bonnet, black mesh radiator grille, 3 spoke leather steering wheel, door ajar warning, anti-burst high-security shielded door locks, body colour grille surround, steering column with mounted audio controls, advanced restraint system (ars), aluminium silver, 9000 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR, ef58kuu, metallic avalon. reversing camera, leather trim seats, partial leather trim, dvd nav, keyless entry system, front and rear park assist, 18 alloy wheels, ford power start, privacy glass, abs, alloy wheels, cruise control, front armrest, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, rear armrest, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, alarm, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, isofix child seat anchor points, pas, partial leather seat trim, rear electric windows, rear wiper, remote central locking, s, blue, 5570 miles, £20995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR 2WD, ek09usn, metallic vision. convenience pack titanium, front and rear park assist, power folding door mirrors, keyless entry system, appearance pack titanium, aluminium finish roof rails, privacy glass, leather trim seats, dvd nav, 18 alloy wheels, ford power start, quickclear, ford direct vehicle, esp, auto headlights, auto wipers, abs, alloy wheels, cruise control, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, rear armrest, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, alarm, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, is, blue, 6880 miles, £21495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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06 (05) **Gen-2 1.6** Blue, PAS, ABS, Alloys, One Owner FSH 15,000 miles . . **£4995**
07 (07) **Savvy Style Auto 1.2** Silver, PAS ABS A/C One Owner FSH 19,000 miles **£4995**

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09 (09) **Hyundai 120** 5 Dr, Hatch, Grey Metallic, PAS ABS A/C, One Owner 3,700 miles. **£8995**
06 (56) **Hyundai Getz 1.1** Atlantie, PAS ABS A/C, 22000 miles One owner . . . **£4995**
56 (06) **Kia Picanto Zip** Red, PAS, ABS Sun Roof 21,000 miles. **£4595**
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2001 01 SAAB 9-3 2.2 TiD SE , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 108,298 miles, Black, 2 Owners, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, ABS, Partial leather seat trim, Air conditioning, Central locking, Climate Control, Trip computer, Alarm, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Multi function steering wheel, Remote locking, Anti theft system. **£3,595**

2002 51 Reg SAAB 9-5 2.3T , 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 105,000 miles, Blue, 3 Owners. ABS, Air conditionin, Full Electric Pack, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, CD, Central locking, Computer, Multi function steering wheel, Remote central locking, Roof rails, Cloth upholstery, Full Service History, Immobiliser **£3,495**

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MONDEO, 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X 5DR [140]AUTOMATIC DIESEL, ea58wxh, moondust, ford direct vehicle, dvd touch screen navigation, bluetooth handsfree and voice control, 18 alloys, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, cruise control, front armrest, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, rear armrest, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, alarm, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, electrically adjustable drivers seat, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, isofix child seat anchor points, pas, rear electric windows, remote central locking, solid paint, steering wheel rake adjustment, st, silver, 7114 miles, £17995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC, S 3dr, eo02 zzv, air conditioning, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, twin air bags, curtain airbags, rear wash/wipe, height adjustable seat, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, silver, 33300 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CR-V, I-VTEC Executive, eo56dvj, abs, air bag, immobiliser, alarm, air conditioning, climate control, cruise control, electric windows, sunroof, cd player, satellite navigation, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, privacy glass, rear armrest, isofix, 16'' alloys, 4x4, pas, roof mounted aerial, visible vehicle identification number, illuminated glovebox, digital clock, side impact protection beams, body colour bumpers, elec heated + adjust door mirrors, internally adjust headlights, tonneau cover, front headrests, 16'' alloy wheels, underfloor storage system in load area, tachometer, leather multi function steering wheel, front passenger seat undertray, body colour door mirrors, external temperature gauge, tie down hooks in luggage area, front and rear speakers, tilt adjustable steering wheel, reclining rear seats, pollen filter, rear mudflaps, lockable glovebox, driver's seat armrest, full size spare wheel, driver/passenger front seatback pockets, hard spare wheel cover, heated front seats, 12v socket in rear of vehicle, chrome door handles, driver/passenger sunvisors and lidded vanity mirrors, driver seat height adjust, passenger armrest, high level rear brake light, body colour side bump strips, 60/40 split fold rear seat back, steering wheel mounted controls, sliding rear seats, fuel filler release, high security audio, 5 x 3 point seatbelts, front interior welcome light, remote glass hatch release, boot integrated picnic table, tweeters, vechicle stability assist, folding front centre storage tray, front skid plate, white dashboard illumination, illuminated ignition switch, chrome tailpipe finisher, drivers footrest, headlamp on reminder, leather and alloy gearknob, honda super locks, front mudguards, remote keyless entry, 3 point height adj front seatbelts + pretensioners, front and rear cupholders, leather upholstery, headlight washers, grey, 18000 miles, £14995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

JAZZ, Dsi SE 5dr, lt06hde, 15'' alloys, black, 16000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, CDX 5dr, ea04 tyx, air conditioning, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, abs, power steering, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, alloy wheels, yellow, 19400 miles, £2995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

AMICA, CDX 5dr, lm06kvx, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, stereo, rear wash/wipe, rear spoiler, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, 13'' alloys, pas, full size spare wheel, leather steering wheel, tinted glass, mudflaps front and rear, seatbelt pretensioners, height adjustable front seatbelts, body colour door mirrors, body colour bumpers, front door pockets, 4 speakers, heated rear window, headlamp levelling, 50/50 split folding rear seat, body colour door handles, interior light, front seatback pockets, black bodyside mouldings, remote fuel flap release, seatbelt warning, front underseat storage trays, 13'' alloy wheels, front cupholders, 2 rear 3 point safety belts, door/boot open warning light, ashtray and cigar lighter, tachometer, audible lights on warning, boot light, front wipers with variable intermittent facility, leather gear knob, seatback hooks, blue, 7000 miles, £5495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0i SE, y458tkk, remote central locking, immobiliser, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, sunroof, cd player, radio, 16'' alloys, blue, 57000 miles, £2999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GETZ, CDX 5dr, yx56vpz, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, alarm, air conditioning, stereo, electric front windows, sunroof, trip computer, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, isofix, 15'' alloys, pas, heated rear window, front wipers with variable intermittent facility, body colour door mirrors, body colour bumpers, luggage compartment lighting, front map light, front seatback pockets, 14'' alloy wheels, full size spare wheel, remote fuel filler release, tinted glass, digital clock, black radiator grille, black side protection mouldings, glovebox, front door pockets, ashtray, 6 speakers, front seatbelt pretensioners + load limiters, sunglasses holder, 60/40 asymmetric split folding rear seat, centre console power outlet, three 3 point rear seatbelts, height adjustable driver's seat, body colour door handles, electric operated/heated door mirrors, front cupholders, high mounted rear brake light, cigarette lighter, roof aerial, driver's seat armrest, electronic headlamp levelling, audible lights on warning, black, 10000 miles, £7495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

LANTRA, Gsi, y989hmx, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric windows, aluminium silver, 67000 miles, £1999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

ISUZU

RODEO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, vx06xey, jiffy pica hot & cold snack wagon. super large rear oven. super large fridge display area. hand wash. silver, 34000 miles, £13995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

IVECO

CARGO, Eurocargo Tector 75E17 Tilt/Slide & Spec Lift, hx04wec, cloth upholstery, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, electric windows, cruise control, radio cassette, colour coded body, lastest version. euro 3. lez compliant. independent 2nd car spec lift. hyrodlic winch. white, 70000 miles, £22000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DAILY, 35C12 Ex-LWB Beavertail, gn07ucl, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, abs, air bag, cd player, remote winch. slide away ramps. lite wieght alloy car transporter beavertail body. white, 33000 miles, £14000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, V6 SE Auto, re04 wgd, air conditioning, climate control, full leather, power steering, parking sensor, traction control, trip computer, cruise control, adjustable steering column, electric windows, electric mirrors, auto-dip rearview, remote central locking, remote alarm, centre armrest, electric seats, heated seats, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, front fog lamps, rain-sensing wipers, auto lighting, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, cd player, radio, steering wheel audio controls, electric handbrake, alloy wheels, silver, 41700 miles, £9995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, V6, ay02 fto, air conditioning, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, rear headrests, parking sensor, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric windows, electric mirrors, traction control, radio cassette, twin air bags, curtain airbags, alloy wheels, silver, 91200 miles, £4495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

KIA

MAGENTIS, GS Crdi, fg56 hvn, air conditioning, abs, power steering, twin air bags, curtain airbags, cd player, radio, electric windows, electric mirrors, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, alloy wheels, black, 23100 miles, £5495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

PICANTO, SE 5dr, mf04nje, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, 14'' alloys, aluminium silver, 70000 miles, £2999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

SPORTAGE, Xse, wx02 vzt, air conditioning, power steering, abs, air bag, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, alloy wheels, 4x4, silver, 66700 miles, £3795, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

LAMBORGHINI

DIABLO, 1998, purple metallic with cream leather, 57000 miles, £59950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 Turbo D Pick Up, f213xlv, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, road tax (plg) is £190 per year. price includes vat. green, 108000 miles, £4995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TD5 GS Automatic, y673toa, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, power steering, traction control, abs, twin air bags, metallic paintwork, tow pack, electric windows, electric mirrors, twin sunroofs, cruise control, alloy wheels, 4x4, road tax (diesel car) is £215 per year. metallic red, 81000 miles, £7995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, r499rdy, remote central locking, power steering, tow pack, radio cassette, alloy wheels, 4x4, genuine camel event vehicle. roolbar, winch, roof light pod and rack etc. only 8, 600 kilometres. sandglow yellow, 8600 miles, £12995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

LDV

MAXUS, Lwb 3.5/95 Refrigerated Chiller, bu07dkd, side load door, dual passenger seat, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, hubbard fridge. grp lined. electric standby available if required. white, 24000 miles, £8995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS, 300 se auto, 2005, silver metallic with grey full leather, 34000 miles, £14950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

IS, IS 250 SE just 19000 miles, gv06ulc, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, remote central locking, remote alarm, full leather, centre armrest, electric seats, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, traction control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, powered folding mirrors, air conditioning, dual climate zones, multi-disc cd player, cd player, radio, 17'' alloys, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, aluminium silver, 19000 miles, £14995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

IS, 200 SE, av54 bxy, air conditioning, climate control, full leather, parking sensor, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear headrests, electric seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, heated seats, electric windows, electric mirrors, powered folding mirrors, electric sunroof, traction control, radio cassette, multi-disc cd player, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, auto lighting, alloy wheels, silver, 20100 miles, £8995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

RX, 300 SE Auto, eo04 uud, air conditioning, climate control, full leather, front fog lamps, roof rails, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric seats, heated seats, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric windows, electric mirrors, cruise control, radio cassette, multi-disc cd player, powered folding mirrors, abs, power steering, electric sunroof, auto-dip rearview, trip computer, twin air bags, side air bags, curtain airbags, parking sensor, alloy wheels, 4x4, grey, 76800 miles, £11995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, Gsi 5dr Auto, ey53 fso, air conditioning, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, cd player, adjustable steering column, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, twin air bags, electric sunroof, traction control, alloy wheels, silver, 15900 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

323, GXi D 5dr, ow52hsl, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, green, 94000 miles, £2999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA6, 6 Ts 5dr, ao56vtu, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, alarm, traction control, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, climate control, cruise control, trip computer, curtain airbags, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, radio, cloth upholstery, isofix, power steering, 16'' alloys, 3 point elr front seat belts, illuminated glovebox with lock, tilt/height adjustable steering wheel, 3 rear 3 point seatbelts with elr, steering wheel mounted remote controls, intrusion minimizing safety brake pedals, manual headlight levelling, driver seat height/tilt/lumbar adjust, digital exterior temperature gauge, 3 speed front intermittent wipe and electric wash, interior dome light with integral spotlight, drivers seatbelt reminder, height adjustable front seatbelts with pre-tensioners and load limiters, rear centre armrest, front door pockets, leather steering wheel and gearshift, sliding front centre armrest, 16'' alloy wheels, 4 speakers, heated rear window, digital clock, body colour door handles, illuminated ashtray, passenger grab handles, body colour bumpers, auxiliary input socket, passenger seat back pocket, illuminated entry system, body colour electric adjustable heated door mirrors, rear grab handles with coathooks, body colour side mouldings, 'global' closing of front/rear windows, cigarette lighter, front armrest with storage bin, active front headrests, 2 cupholders, driver/passenger sunvisors with ticket holders + illuminated vanity mirrors, tyre repair kit, heat reflecting windows, supplementary restraint system central control unit and crush sensors, 60/40 split folding rear seat, white finish dials with amber-red illumination, welcome mode lighting, speed warning, grey, 21000 miles, £9495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

TRIBUTE, 2.0gxi 4wd, 2002, silver metallic with grey cloth interior, 63000 miles, £3850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

MERCEDES BENZ

CL, 500 auto coupe facelift model, 2003, tanzernite blue with grey comfort leather, 68000 miles, £13950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

C220 CDI, Sport, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 10000 miles, £24990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

CLC220 CDI, 2009, fire opal, 1000 miles, £29712, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E CLASS, E280 Avantgarde auto just 23000 miles, kr06lyk, remote alarm, remote central locking, half leather, centre armrest, electric seats, rear headrests, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, xenon headlamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, powered folding mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, steering wheel audio controls, 16'' alloys, rear parking sensors, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, tealite blue metallic, 23000 miles, £14995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

E CLASS, E350 Avantgarde auto SAT NAV vat Qualifying, bj56yhz, remote alarm, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, electric seats, rear headrests, colour satnav, cruise control, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, xenon headlamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, powered folding mirrors, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, steering wheel audio controls, 17'' alloys, vat qualifying, new generation model, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, indium grey metallic, 65000 miles, £17995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

NISSAN

ALMERA, Tino SE, ml02 arz, air conditioning, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, twin air bags, electric sunroof, blue, 77400 miles, £2995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MICRA, Profile 16v 5dr, v802gan, power steering, green, 70000 miles, £2695, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

NOTE, 1.6 16v TEKNA, gk09wyu, part leather, chicane/leather, active front headrest system, anti-lock braking system (abs), automatic lighting system, automatic rain sensing wipers, brake assist, central door locking, climate control air conditioning, cruise control, driver's airbag, electric brake distribution (ebd), electric heated door mirrors, electric windows, friendly lighting system, front side airbags, headlamp levelling, isofix anchorage points, leather steering wheel, passenger airbag, power assisted steering (pas), privacy glass (rear side windows), rear park system, rear wash wipe, remote control keyless entry, single cd player, tilt adjustable steering wheel, faded denim, 5000 miles, £11995.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

NOTE, 1.4 16v ACENTA, gk59nfj, cloth, carbon, active front headrest system, air-conditioning, anti-lock braking system (abs), brake assist, central door locking, cruise control, driver's airbag, electric brake distribution (ebd), electric heated door mirrors, electric windows, friendly lighting system, front side airbags, headlamp levelling, isofix anchorage points, leather steering wheel, passenger airbag, power assisted steering (pas), rear wash wipe, remote control keyless entry, single cd player, tilt adjustable steering wheel, blade silver, 1 miles, £11495.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

206, S 3dr, hd53 esu, air conditioning, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, twin air bags, cd player, radio, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, silver, 31000 miles, £4295, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

307, S 5dr, ay54 xrd, air conditioning, cd player, radio, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, curtain airbags, alloy wheels, blue, 18600 miles, £5495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

406, LX HDI 110 diesel cheap tax, 2001, silver, 147985 miles, £1595, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911, 3.4 coupe carrera 4, 2000, silver metallic with black leather, 108000 miles, £15950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, Dynamique 16v 5dr, fn07sgz, remote central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 29000 miles, £6999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CLIO, Campus 8v 3dr, ao56 oja, abs, power steering, electric front windows, twin air bags, radio cassette, adjustable steering column, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, blue, 31000 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

AURIS, D-4d Tr Mmt 5dr, lg58juh, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, power steering, air conditioning, climate control, electric front windows, trip computer, front fog lamps, curtain airbags, brake assist, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, cloth upholstery, isofix, 15'' alloys, roof mounted aerial, lights on warning, electrically heated door mirrors, digital clock, air recirculation system, body colour door mirrors, front and rear cupholders, red tone rear light cluster, ashtray and cigar lighter, body colour bumpers, steering wheel mounted audio controls, outside temperature display, driver/passenger front seatback pockets, passenger under seat storage tray, front armrest, 6 speakers, driver's footrest, 2 speed intermittent front wiper with mist function, removable rear parcel shelf, 60/40 split fold rear seat back, dual glovebox, heated rear window with timer, illuminated driver/pass vanity mirrors with cover, 4 load area hooks, centre console box with lid, tilt/telescopic adjust steering wheel, remote fuel cap release, body colour door handles, front door pockets, luggage compartment lighting, seatbelt reminders for driver and front passenger, driver's seat manual height adjust, space saver spare wheel, 16'' 5 double spoke alloy wheels, instrument display dimmer, electrically adjustable wide angle door mirrors, anti submarining seats, front and rear seatbelts with electronic sensing, pretensioners and force limiters, height adjustable front, rear and outer 3 point seatbelts with alr/elr, leather trimmed x-spoke steering wheel, rear door chrome trim, electronic headlamp levelling, keys left in ignition warning, leather gear knob, driver and passenger sunvisor, rear wipe-intermittent + continued sweep, door ajar warning, aluminium silver, 4000 miles, £11995, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

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by STEVELOADER

Signs of recovery in the new van market

BRITAIN'S economic health can be judged by sales of vans – the blood in its business veins.

And while plummeting sales over the past couple of years – and the summer demise of LDV, the country's last homegrown van maker – show how deeply the nation fell into recession, there are signs of recovery.

Some economists actually say the recession is over, but this has yet to show in registrations for new trucks and vans, which are still some 40 per cent down overall this year against 2008.

But there is pressure building in the used van sector where demand is outstripping supply and driving prices upwards to the point where new buys start to look attractive as businesses recover confidence.

Giant auction house BCA said the van or LCV (light commercial sector) was unseasonably strong in August, traditionally a month that sees lower values.

Average values for fleet and lease, dealer part-exchange and nearly-new vans all rose, and for the first time all three sectors achieved over 100 per cent of forecasts in the industry's valuation guide CAP.

According to BCA's Pulse report, average used LCV values across the board improved in August by £179 or five per cent to reach £3,745 – the highest point since April, 2008. Year-on-year values were ahead by over £500.

Average fleet and lease van values improved by £203 against July (up by 5.2 per cent) to reach £4,045 – the first time the £4,000 barrier has been breached in 16 months.

Significantly, dealer-entered part-exchange stock also rose by £160 (7.5 per cent) following a nine per cent rise in July – showing that more new deals are starting to happen – and, after a sharp fall last month, nearly-new values recovered by over £1,000 to £9,034 – the third highest average monthly value in this sector this year.

BCA general manager for commercial sales, Duncan Ward said: "August proved to be a remarkably strong month for LCV sales and certainly outperformed the customary 'summer holiday season' market.

"Supplies of good retail quality vans were relatively limited and buyers were bidding strongly for the best examples – particularly from the fleet sector where competition was intense.

"Professional buyers who would usually buy stock exclusively from corporate sources were having to look further afield and were bidding on younger or older vehicles to stock their forecourts."

But he did sound a note of caution: "It remains to be seen if the market is going to march on into the autumn months and perhaps consistently register values to compare with the market highpoint in early 2008."

RECOVERY: Vans oil the cogs of the UK economy and rising market values for used examples suggest demand for new ones will arrive soon, underlining talk of an end to the recession

Girls make inroads on White Van Man

GIRL power could be challenging White Van Man according to AA Insurance.

Research showed that a third of van owners are now women with female florists, perhaps not surprisingly, being one of the top categories.

The ladies say modern van features such as air con, CD/MP3 sound systems, power-assisted steering and sat nav, plus better arranged and car-like cabs have made it easier for them to encroach on what used to be male territory.

Norwich Union Direct research supported the AA findings and identified a new female business community dubbed 'vantrepreneurs'.

With women already exerting more force on how cars are marketed and sold, 'girl power' is widely expected to increase its influence on the van sector, especially as many of the smaller vehicles are car-derived.

FLEET VAN AWARDS 2009

AT THE DOUBLE: Citroen Berlingo – best small and best outright van of the year

Citroën triumphs again

CITROËN this year again dominated the coveted Fleet Van Awards with the Berlingo winning two of the top honours.

For the second year in succession, the Berlingo was voted outright Van of the Year and Small Van of the Year at the ceremony in London.

The judges, including major fleet operators and independent van experts, said the van took the top honour thanks to its versatility, breadth of range, advanced design and many features unmatched by its rivals.

This efficiency-boosting combination, together with excellent green credentials, offered an unbeatable overall fleet package.

In gaining the Small Van of the Year title, the Citroën Berlingo defeated some strong rivals largely due to strengthening its position via new derivatives such as the five-seat Crew Van and enhanced-traction XTR+ model.

Robert Handyside, Citroën's commercial vehicle operations manager, said: "Today, the Citroën Berlingo is the most versatile small van available in the Berlingo type van segment, offering an unrivalled choice of models to cope with virtually any business transport requirement in this sector.

"Citroën will continue its pro-active approach in developing the Berlingo and all its LCVs, to provide businesses with even greener, even more operationally efficient vehicles."

The new Berlingo offers van operators a choice of two load lengths, three payloads and the availability of single or dual passenger seat.

Apart from the Crew Van and XTR+ mentioned earlier it also offers 625kg, 750kg and 850kg payload capacities, 75hp or 90hp HDi diesel engines, 90hp petrol engines – with the choice of dual fuel (petrol/lpg) capability – X and LX trim levels, and a unique platform cab for special bodywork.

Fiat – most improved van manufacturer of the year

FIAT Professional – the commercial vehicle arm of Fiat Group pulled off a major coup at this month's 2009 Fleet Van Awards.

The brand took the prize for Most Improved Van Manufacturer of the Year at the influential industry showcase, in London.

Judges singled out Fiat Professional's useful range of vans and the brand's attention to its customers and dealers.

"Fiat Professional has made huge strides forward in terms of fleet support and back-up through its dealer network," says Stephen Briers, editor-in-chief, Fleet Van.

"It now has a strong model line-up and an excellent understanding of the needs of fleet operators, and is sure to go from strength to strength."

Fiat Professional director Gerry Clarke responded: "We have made great improvements in the last few years and it is satisfying to know the experts can see that too."

The Fiat Professional van range in order of ascending size is: Grande Punto Van, Fiorino, Doblo Cargo, Scudo, Ducato (pictured).

Finding Nemo is most economical

NEVER mind controversial 'official' fuel consumption figures, the Citroën Nemo has publicly proved itself the UK's most miserly van.

A Nemo SensoDrive 1.4HDi returned an impressive 75.8mpg in an independent MPG Marathon organised by Fleet World magazine over a 358.5 mile event to retain its Britain's Most Economical Van title.

The test was also 'real world' as drivers had to maintain a respectable and realistic 30mph average speed to avoid penalties.

The Nemo's economy was attributed to its quick-shifting SensoDrive automated manual gearbox.

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Merc dealer's upbeat view

KENT Mercedes-Benz commercial vehicle dealer, Sparshatts, believes the van trade is seeing signs of a recovery.

Sales director Andrew Sparshatt said: "The market is still understandably price-conscious and Mercedes-Benz trades on quality, longevity and resale values rather than discounting – some buyers will naturally shop around.

"Others realise they may have to spend more at first for our vehicles, but operating costs are about the same as they get more back when they sell and courier companies, for instance, know the value of covering big mileages in confidence."

He added that his group, which has sites in Sittingbourne, Ashford, Tunbridge Wells and Dartford, had witnessed robust demand for nearly new stock, but pointed out that the renowned durability and longevity of Mercedes-Benz vans caused canny owners to hold onto their vehicles in these tougher times.

This had been particularly true in the bigger panel van sector contested by the Mercedes-Benz Sprinter.

Mr Sparshatt said: "It is the smaller Vito (pictured) that has kept us turning over. These sell to smaller operators and sole traders who have a more hands-on feel for whether business is doing well and whether they can afford a new van."

He added that the Vito was particularly popular too for its 'Dualiner' option, which adds rear seating, and an array of options.

"You can buy a Vito in base colour with the junior engine and specification, but most people spend £16,000-21,000 to enjoy their time with the vehicle and make more when they sell on."

IN DEMAND: Dealer says the Mercedes Vito is a popular choice for smaller businesess

What's the big deal about scrappage?

LABOUR'S party conference was used by the Government to announce an extension to the £2,000-a-time Scrappage grants scheme.

Though the Treasury only contributes half of each grant towards a new vehicle in return for scrapping one 10 or more years old – the balance comes from manufacturers and their dealers – the original £300 million fund was about to run out this month instead of lasting until next March.

The scheme's success has been credited with giving the beleaguered car market a shot in the arm during recession.

What has been less publicised is the fact that Scrappage deals are also open to van owners and operators, often in need of even more help towards replacing overworked and tired models.

To qualify for the basic £2,000 Scrappage discount – some dealers offer more on selected models – the car or small van (up to 3,500 kg) being scrapped must have been registered 10 or more years earlier, must have a valid MOT and the driver/owner applying to scrap the vehicle must have had it for at least 12 months.

The dealer will arrange for the scrapping of the vehicle.

In the case of a replacement van, again it can weigh up to 3,500 kg but must be brand new with no former keepers – this excludes dealer pre-registration or nearly new stock.

The scheme will run until March, 2010, or until the additional £150 million pot is exhausted – assuming the Government does not chip in even more cash. The grant should apply from the moment the order is processed, rather than when the new van is delivered.

Tougher Fiorino plus traction

FIAT Professional's versatile Fiorino van now has a 'rough tough' option – a new electronic differential lock system for improved grip and control.

The new system, called Traction + will be offered on the 1.3 MultiJet SX diesel Fiorino van and 1.3 MultiJet diesel Combi.

These also get body and chassis enhancements including under-engine protection, front bumper with chrome finish, greater body protection, 15-inch steel wheels and suspension raised by three centimetres.

Fiat says Traction + improves handling and control when driving in mud, snow and other low-grip conditions, yet has no impact on fuel economy or maintenance costs.

The package costs £750 for the van version and £780 for the Combi and is expected to be popular with users who have to tackle hilly or rough terrain, as the vehicle's standard equipment also includes all-weather tyres.

The system works by applying brake force to the driven wheel with the lowest grip and transferring more torque to the other wheel, with the result that there is more grip to overcome slippery conditions.

CITROËN Used Vehicles

C1

07 07 1.4 HDi Rhythm 5 dr Diesel Hatch, Damas Blue, 10,800m.....£6,995

C2

05 05 1.4i Design 3dr Hatch, Poseidon Blue, 42,415m..... £5,495

06 06 1.1i SX 3dr Hatch, Wicked Red, 18,677m..... £5,995

05 55 1.4 HDi Design Diesel 3dr Hatch, Poseidon Blue, 52,693m..... £5,995

C3

03 53 1.4i LX 5dr Hatch, Tuscan Blue, 60,569m..... £3,995

04 54 1.4i Desire 5dr Hatch, Special Edition, Arctic Steel,18,600m..... £4,995

05 55 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch, Arctic Steel, 34,200m £5,995

05 05 1.4 HDi Exclusive 5dr Hatch, Oriental Blue, 39,645m..... £6,995

05 55 1.6 HDi SX 5dr Diesel Hatch, Tuscan Blue, 41,715m..... £7,295

07 07 1.4 HDi Desire 5dr Hatch, Special Edition, Black, 32,147m..... £7,495

06 06 1.6i SX 5dr Hatch Auto, Arctic Steel, 15,859m..... £7,495

07 56 1.6 HDi SX 5dr Diesel Hatch, Iron Grey, 30,100m..... £7,995

08 08 1.4 HDi Cachet 5dr Hatch, Spec Edition, Passion Red, 37,699m. £8,795

C3 Picasso

09 09 1.4 Picasso 1.4 VTi VTR+ 5dr Estate, Thorium Grey, 4,047m... £10,995

C4

07 56 1.6i Cool 5dr Hatch, Wicked Red, 12,000m..... £7,995

07 07 1.6 HDi SX 5dr Hatch Auto, Spec Edition, Arctic Steel, 12,020m.. £7,995

08 08 1.6i VTR Plus 5dr Hatch, Normandy Green, 7,400m..... £8,995

07 57 1.6 HDi Cool 5dr Hatch, Special Edition, Arctic Steel, 19,044m... £9,995

08 08 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr Diesel Hatch, Arctic Steel, 21,650m..... £10,995

08 08 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr Diesel Hatch, Icelandic Grey, 21,650m..... £10,995

08 58 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr, Diesel Hatch, Wicked Red 16,669m..... £11,495

08 58 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr Diesel Hatch, Arctic Steel, 11,165m..... £11,495

09 09 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 3dr Diesel Coupe, Polar White, 10,000m..... £12,495

08 58 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr Diesel Hatch, Thirium Grey, 5,250m..... £12,495

08 08 2.0 HDi Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch, Black, 10,469m £12,495

C4 Picasso

07 07 1.6 HDi VTR Plus Grand Estate, Icare, 24,850m.....£13,795

07 57 2.0 HDi VTR Plus 5dr, Diesel Estate, Anodised Gold, 19,500m £14,495

08 58 1.6 HDi VTR Plus Grand Estate, Iron Grey, 15,448m..... £14,995

Xsara Picasso

05 05 1.8i Desire Estate, Sahara Gold, 46,007m..... £6,495

06 56 1.6i Exclusive Estate, Arctic Steel, 35,300m..... £7,295

06 06 1.6 HDi 92 Desire 5dr Diesel Estate, Iron Grey, 23,659m..... £7,495

06 06 1.6i HDi 92 Exclusive Diesel Estate, Black, 21,150m..... £8,695

06 06 1.6i HDi 92 Exclusive Diesel Estate, Oriental Blue, 24,580m..... £8,695

06 56 1.6i HDi 92 Exclusive Diesel Estate, Iron Grey, 18,445m..... £8,995

C5

09 58 2.0 HDi VTR+ 4dr Auto Diesel Saloon, Blue, 24,427m..... £13,995

09 90 2.0 HDi VTR+ 5dr Diesel Tourer, Bourrasque Blue, 12,000m.... £15,995

C-Crosser

09 09 2.2 HDi Code 5dr Diesel Estate, Special Edition, 9,000m..... £18,995

Berlingo

05 55 1.4i Berlingo Multispace 5dr Estate, Passion Red, 36,721m..... £5,495

09 09 1.6 HDi LX Berlingo 75ps L1 Diesel, Arctic Steel, 2,000m..... £9,000

Nemo

09 58 1.4i X Nemo Patrol, White, 3,000m.....£6,000

Enterprise

09 09 1.4 HDi 70 bhp Van Enterprise Diesel, 1,000m..... £6,600

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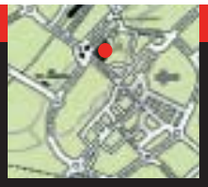

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Heavyweights will descend on dome

By **ANDY ROGERS**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT interests will be monitored closely at a forum for the Thames Gateway redevelopment.

The county has a major stake in Europe's largest regeneration project and will have heavyweight representation at the forum which takes place at the O2 in Greenwich next month.

Among those attending will be public and private sector bodies, including Kent County Council and Medway Council, the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), Gillingham MP Paul Clark and the North Kent Community Forum, representing the voluntary and community sector.

Swale council will be another significant participant at the event staged in the Indigo2 venue inside the dome, which will gather representatives from central and local government, developers, and investors with interests in the Gateway, comprising east London and the estuary coastlands of Kent and Essex.

Kent interests divide into a further trio of distinct areas:

• Kent Thameside comprising urban Dartford and Gravesham north of the A2, where a programme is already under way to build 30,000 homes and create 50,000 jobs by 2026.

Most of the homes will use redundant chalk quarries and industrial 'brownfield' land.

The area has already notched two major successes: Crossways Business Park, employing 5,000 people; and Bluewater, attracting 26 million shoppers a year.

Public transport has been boosted by the Fastrack bus system linking established centres to new developments and High Speed 1 (the Channel Tunnel rail link), expected to promote a new business and financial services centre at Ebbsfleet International.

DOME FROM HOME: The O2 in Greenwich will host the Thames Gateway forum

High Speed 1 will be one of seven forum site-visits, with delegates invited to board one of the line's Javelin trains at the redeveloped St Pancras International and travel at 140mph to the new station at Ebbsfleet.

• Medway is expected to gain 27,000 more people before 2020. The former Chatham naval base has already emerged from depression, with Chatham Maritime an established residential and business location and the Historic Dockyard now a popular attraction.

• Swale and the Isle of Sheppey has a regeneration partnership, Swale Forward, created to promote knowledge-based industries, leading to 12,000 jobs and 9,100 homes by 2016.

Key projects include development at Queenborough and Rushenden, growing Sittingbourne as a retail centre, redevelopment at Sheerness Port and further growth of Kent Science Park.

The Thames Gateway Forum will be chaired by Lord Falconer, the lawyer and former Labour Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs and Lord Chancellor.

He may feel the choice of forum venue is rough justice, though. In 1998, he was asked to take over the Millennium Dome project – now the O2 – and was criticised for the alleged failings of the flagship attraction.

Key speakers include the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government John Denham, his opposition counterpart Stewart Jackson; former mayor of London Ken Livingstone, current Mayor Boris Johnson's transport guru Steve Norris, and Eurostar CEO Richard Brown.

The forum takes place on November 3-4. Details at www.thamesgatewayforum.com.

Campus contract

A MAJOR £60 million contract has been put up for tender by the University of Kent.

Contractors have until next month to express an interest and submit details for an extension of student accommodation at the Canterbury campus.

The plan is to provide a further 1,000 beds. Bidders will be expected to have a proven track record in developing similar projects for universities.

The ambitious scheme also includes a 150-bed conference facility. Work on the main accommodation should begin in January, 2010, and be complete by September, 2011.

A maximum of three contractors will be shortlisted on November 16 after the submission of pre-qualification documents due by November 12. For details, visit the university website at www.kent.ac.uk.

Starting 'em young

JUST one in 10 people aged 16 to 24 who consider starting a business actually take the plunge.

Now Business Link is urging young people to think creatively about the opportunities available to them, particularly with the tough jobs market and competition for university places.

Business Link's Jason Martin said: "Starting a new business can seem daunting, particularly when you're young. A great place to begin is the business start-up organiser, available at www.businesslink.gov.uk.

"It's a free online guide that enables young people to analyse the potential of their ideas and plan the next steps."

Stuart's an Addick

STUART Butler-Gallie, of Kings Hill-based Vertex Law, has been appointed an independent non-executive director on the newly re-formed board of Charlton Athletic FC.

He has been legal adviser to the club for 12 years. He also acts for Vertex Law as Charlton's company secretary and accepted an invitation to join the board, which has been restructured to streamline operations.

The move coincides with the recent investment of £7 million in the club.

Author's entertaining and witty take on the dark arts of

'Nice' won't get you

ANDY ROGERS meets Adrian Maile, a man who believes being nice in business needs to be replaced by a somewhat more direct philosophy …

IN WEIGHING up how to throw a party to launch his new book – the snappily titled How To Be A Successful Bastard – author Adrian Maile considered charging for drinks.

"It would have been the bastard thing to do," he admits. But he didn't and after a few minutes talking to this colourful Kent-born high-flier in the world of IT, you ask how he knows so much about getting ahead using every trick in the book – his book – without actually employing them?

Or has he been a victim?

"I've never really been victimised," he mused, but recognising a few of the ploys helped – forewarned is forearmed.

"I think, and hope, that fundamentally I'm a nice bloke, but I've always been fascinated by how some of the most objectional bastards can wield great power," the 47-year-old adds.

No need to labour the point about Hitler, we agree.

"But really, it seems that some of the most messed up people can be the most successful and concentrate so much of the world's wealth in their hands."

He attributes this to the fact that humans operate in a culture based on subliminal fear where those armed with just a few underhand tools can bully and exploit their way to power: "American self-help books like to argue 'Be nice to everybody and everything will be lovely', but that's simply not true.

"You have to have some steel, too. I do not believe that just because he wears a woolly jumper that (Sir Richard) Branson is not a ruthless businessman. I was amused by Dustin Hoffman's reply to a question from Jonathan Ross when asked, 'What's the secret of staying married to the same woman for 30 years in Hollywood?'

"His response was, 'Be very, very afraid of your wife'. We are all afraid of displeasing others."

Mr Maile clearly has no issues on the marital front himself, cheerfully admitting to making up his mind to marry wife Hilary when they were in their teens in north west Kent. They have four daughters and are now grandparents.

Even then he had five small jobs, including manning the turnstiles at Charlton Athletic FC, but impending nuptials forced him to start thinking seriously about a career.

He realised computers were the way forward and joined Lloyds Bank as a trainee programmer. Clearly, some of the research started here. He recalls: "Banking then operated what was known as the '363 rule': pay out three per cent on deposits, lend at six per cent and be on the golf course at three."

From there and passing through PricewaterhouseCoopers, he went on to top jobs in leading software companies and now sits on the board of German international business software giant SAP, though he still lives in Lee, near Blackheath, just a few miles from where he was born.

He also mined 'bastard experiences' outside of the IT industry by operating companies selling sportswear, landscape gardening and Christmas decorations, as well as running a pub with wife Hilary and a friend.

"What an experience! You go into it the pub trade with rose-tinted glasses and then wake up later to realise that everyone who can, will try to rob you blind," he says.

"I remember binmen telling us the 'charges' for taking pub rubbish away. It was only after checking I found that they are supposed to take everything away as part of the business rates."

This sharp practice is nothing compared with some of the tips in his book, such as:

- Win every argument.
- Criticise immediately.
- Focus on the negative.
- Avoid hard work (after reading the 'Delegate' section).

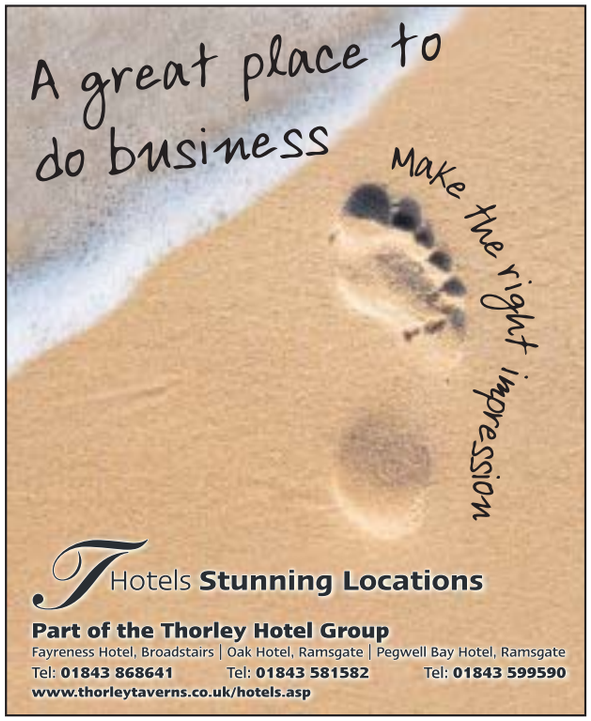
A personal favourite that he admits to using is to 'stay silent' in a one-to-one to situation.

He explains: "My then boss had started off by telling me all the reasons why he couldn't give me a big pay rise that year, so I just kept quiet, which forced him to carry on. 'Well, maybe I can give you little extra ...' and so on. It's hysterical that I would have been more than happy with the original offer, but by keeping quiet I ended up with much more. Just think what a real bastard could achieve by following the code."

Rather than a step-by-step guide to becoming a bastard, he hopes the book will be thought-provoking entertainment and has set up a www.successful-bastards.com website where people can have their own boss rated on the Bastardometer.

The results can be printed and presented as a certificate – if you dare. He reckons a successful bastard will score 80+ per cent, but once worked for a boss who would rate 92 per cent: "Everyone knew he was an ar*ehole. He didn't care if he had few friends. He just had a collection of individuals he would play golf with."

After this interview, I tested myself on the Bastardometer and was strangely disappointed, as much as relieved, to find I rated only as 35 per cent bastard. But maybe more impartial input is required ...



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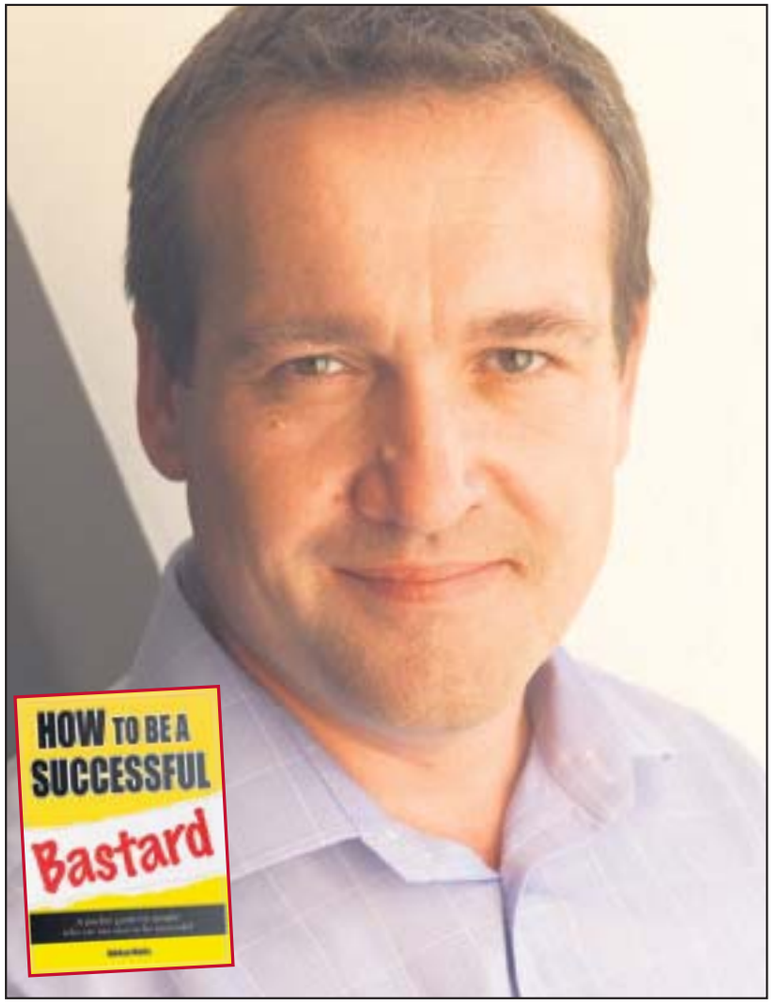

ADRIAN MAILE: 'Some say, "Be nice and everything will be lovely", but that's not true'. INSET: The cover of Maile's book says it all

Expo sustains the quality

THE sector may be taking a pounding, but there was much to be optimistic about as crowds flocked to Kent's third annual Construction Expo, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

As the building industry grapples with the recession, numbers attending showed an inevitable decline, but organisers KOS Media, in conjunction with Business Link, were able to draw positives from the event at Chatham Historic Dockyard.

"The footfall was lower than in previous years, but construction has been hit harder than most by the economic slowdown, so we were hardly surprised," said Liz Hare, events manager for KOS Media.

"However, a lot of exhibitors remarked that the quality of the programme and delegates and representatives attending was higher than last year.

"People said they got to see the people they needed to see, while the number of students was significantly lower at 200 instead of 600.

"We've already had exhibitors asking about next year, which is encouraging, but a key message from the build-up and during the show was how companies across the industry have been cutting promotional and marketing budgets. And you have to ask how they can chase new business and bounce back from recession if they allow their profile to fade away. It is a Catch-22 situation which many firms in the industry must address."

FACE TO FACE: Pointing the way ahead

OPPORTUNITY: Networking at Expo

She added that Expo was praised highly by exhibitors for the quality of the guest speakers, including the charismatic Wayne Hemingway, who champions affordable housing via his specialist Hemingway Design company.

He told Expo he actually believed the downturn was a once-in-a-generation opportunity for developers.

Other speakers included David Liston-Jones – chief executive of the Thames Gateway Kent Partnership – and Seeda's director of the built environment, Chris Moore.

Medway Council's portfolio holder for economic growth, Cllr Jane Chitty, opened the event and Ashford's Future MD Judith Armitt gave a talk about the group's activities.

Expo's EcoVillage, dedicated to the promotion of sustainable construction products and services, was a major hit for the show and a pointer to the future, while exhibitors came from all over the UK and even from as far away as New Zealand.

Retailers' survey shows stability being restored

CONDITIONS in the retail sector are beginning to stabilise, with sales broadly flat in the year to September and expected to remain unchanged in October, according to the CBI.

Regional director Malcolm Hyde said: "After such a difficult summer, it's encouraging to see signs that conditions in the retail sector are stabilising.

"However, with unemployment rising, wage growth low, and consumers building up their savings, spending is likely to remain subdued.

"Grocers and shoe shops are continuing to enjoy solid growth, while carmakers are seeing sales volumes hold steady, thanks to the Scrappage scheme.

"In the months up to Christmas we may see some shoppers bring forward spending to beat the planned VAT rise.

"After months of de-stocking, retailers may now be starting to think about getting new products on the shelves."

Responding to the CBI's latest Distributive Trades Survey, 39 per cent of retailers said year-on-year sales volumes rose in September, while 36 per cent said they fell.

The resulting balance – where a balance is the difference between the percentage of retailers reporting an increase and those reporting a decrease – of plus three per cent was better than expected and follows four consecutive months of falling sales.

Looking to October, retailers expect sales will remain broadly flat compared with a year ago.

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Small boost with free workshops

OWNER-MANAGERS of small businesses in Medway are being encouraged to attend a free workshop, which explores ways to increase sales and profits.

Run by advice service Business Link, the boost your sales and profits half-day workshops are being held from 11.30am and 4.30pm at the Holiday Inn, Maidstone Road, Rochester, on Friday, October 23, and at other venues throughout the year.

The workshop is free but exclusively for Kent-based owner-managers with no more than two full-time employees.

For more details and to book, visit www.boostyoursalesandprofits.co.uk.

College liaison

RICHARD Wheeler has been appointed head of business development and regional liaison at Kent Science Park, near Sittingbourne.

Mr Wheeler joins after establishing the Nucleus innovation centre and science park at The Bridge, the mixed-use joint venture between Dartford council and distribution facility giant Prologis.

He previously directed multi-million-pound grant-funded business, innovation and enterprise projects in the Thames Gateway.

He will be responsible for building upon the park's relationships with universities and colleges.

Changing face of online sales

ROGER COWAP, commercial director of the Kent arm of Barclays Commercial Bank, considers the many changes being wrought by the internet and online retailing

ROGER COWAP

THERE'S no doubt over the internet's success as a retail channel.

Behind this success there are, however, many factors which have changed over time, including the consumer.

We're used to seeing fantastic growth figures for online sales such as the IMRG Capgemini e-Retail Index figures [online and interactive sales tracker] which for July were up 16.8 per cent on 2008 – but there are push and pull factors which have led to the channel's success.

In the wake of the financial crisis, confidence dropped significantly and consumers have become sensitive. Whether they have been directly affected through changes to their livelihoods or job stability, they're more cautious, more reluctant, and scrutinise spending decisions more than ever. Consumers are spending, but the manner in which they are making spending decisions has changed. Footfall is down 2.1 per cent in the year to date. Allegra Strategies forecasts a decline of 0.5 per cent in the eating out market in 2009, but satellite broadcaster Sky has experienced the highest customer growth in five years and Domino's pizza sales are up 19.5 per cent in the half year to the end of June.

All these statistics, although anecdotal, tell a story. That story is arguably of the consumer controlling their spending environment, choosing to entertain at home over going out, where they may spend more than they would like.

I would argue that online retail has potentially benefited from this change in consumer patterns.

Internet retail has a perception of value and with the rise of price comparison websites and search engines, the consumer has a feeling of greater control and the ability to save on purchases. If consumers spend more time at home and as a result more time online, greater opportunities exist for internet retailers, as do opportunities to convert online browsing into in-store traffic.

In the dotcom boom, high street retailers were concerned that consumers would investigate products in-store before then searching to buy them online for less. Somewhat of an opposite trend has instead occurred, with many consumers researching online before buying in-store.

Browsing

One way for high street retailers to protect against this trend is to offer click-and-collect type services. If consumers are browsing online and researching goods to buy in-store, there is no better way to ensure a sale than offering click-and-collect online as this reduces the risk of the shopper going to a rival on the high street to make their final purchase.

Even though online retail is increasing, there's still much online traffic that isn't converting into sales. Consumers are informing themselves online, as shown by research from Amaze and the University of Glasgow which revealed 87 per cent of online customers abandon their basket before paying.

The key is to understand these consumer trends and play to the strengths of the internet. Is your website engaging those browsers and window shoppers? Does your website encourage and reassure with simple steps to purchase? Perhaps try buying something off your own site to see ...

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Zooming ahead of the rest

JEREMY THOMSON: Mazda UK's MD

SALES of Mazda cars bucked the recession and soared to their best month ever with the September change to the '59 new registration plate.

This also meant that Kent-based Mazda UK has established the country as the number one market in Europe for the Japanese 'Zoom-Zoom' brand.

The performance helped its Mazda2 supermini as well. Energised by the £2,000-a-go Government-sponsored Scrappage scheme, it notched more sales in one month than its predecessor ever managed in a full year.

Mazda's total new car registration figure for September was 11,372 – worth a UK market share of three per cent – and 8.3 per cent better than the previous record, March 2008 (10,497 units). It was also the biggest single month for Mazda since the marque arrived here in the 1960s.

Jeremy Thomson, MD at Mazda UK in Dartford, said: "This has been a difficult year for the industry. However, we have seen our retail share increase and this is the real test of popularity rather than just simple volume.

"To put the September sales achievement into perspective, it's just 4,488 sales short of the full year volume in 2001 when we took over the business [from the former Tunbridge Wells-based UK distributor].

"While this is a reason for celebration at Mazda, we recognise the recovery in the car industry is still fragile. We have to work hard to continue our success but are aiming to finish the year as the third best ever for Mazda in the UK."

The company's top seller in September was the Mazda2 (4,824 units), with the new Mazda3 family hatchback runner-up (2,546).

The brand's MX-5 (1,353) sports car continues to sell well too, even though September normally marks a tail off in sales for open-top cars.

Mr Thomson said: "Throughout this downturn we have sought to ensure our dealers remain profitable, motivated and have the tools to do the job effectively.

"We have also continued to build our brand awareness and give the dealers the product mix they require to hit their sales objectives.

"These actions are now beginning to pay off as we see increasing traffic in the showrooms, greater awareness of the Mazda brand and more customers abandoning other manufacturers to buy Mazda vehicles."

Make a world of difference to the marketplace

SOME of Kent's heaviest business big-hitters will be gathering for a major one-day event designed to open the doors to international markets, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

The Kent International Business Event will take place on Thursday, October 29, and is targeted at businesses keen to take advantage of international trading.

The free event will introduce companies to the realities of the marketplace, introduce them to key European markets, and the benefits of opening up trade relations with the United States.

It is backed by Kent County Council, which hopes businesses looking to explore new opportunities will come along on a fact-finding mission.

A spokesman said: "This is the first major event of this kind we are helping to organise for the international marketplace.

"We want firms which have considered international trading, but been unsure as to which way to turn for advice, to come along.

"It will feature a host of experts who will cover issues such as exporting, international trade finance and taking advantage of international business networks which can provide support."

Among those speaking at the event – at Darwin College on the University of Kent's Canterbury campus – will be Cllr Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development; Chris Lowsley of UK Trade and Investment, Linda Bennett of the Enterprise Europe Network, and Frazer Thompson, chairman of the Kent Institute of Directors.

In addition, there will be workshops focusing on trading in Europe and the US.

KCC deputy leader Cllr Alex King said: "With the weak pound, now is a great time to take advantage of foreign markets to expand your business. This free event is all about KCC backing Kent businesses in these difficult times."

Visit http://kent.gov.uk/business/international-business-event.htm to register for free.

Alternatively, contact europe.affairs@kent.gov.uk or call 01622 694046. The event is being delivered in partnership by KCC, UK Trade and Investment, Enterprise Europe Network, University of Kent and the US State of Virginia.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

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WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/01/2012 **OD:** £1,329

MORTGAGE BOX ITL
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2011 **OD:** £1,184

MARSDEN
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.19% **L:** 70% **U:** 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,123

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/01/2012 **OD:** £1,030

OTHER

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS **OD:** £1,030

DARLINGTON
RT: DISCOUNTED VARIABLE **R%:** 3.15% **L:** 70% **U:** 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,320

MARSDEN
RT: DISCOUNTED VARIABLE **R%:** 3.09% **L:** 75% **U:** 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,123

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 3.09% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS **OD:** £1,305

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LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.55	AXA	£6.07
AVIVA	£7.82	LV=	£6.38
SCOT PROVIDENT	£8.49	AVIVA	£6.76
AEGON SCOT EQUIT	£8.54	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£7.01
LV=	£8.55	AEGON SCOT EQUIT	£7.07

MALE AGED 40		FEMALE AGED 40	
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AXA	£17.86	LEGAL & GENERAL	£14.60
LEGAL & GENERAL	£18.05	LV=	£14.80
AEGON SCOT EQUIT	£18.09	AXA	£14.82
BRIGHT GREY	£18.16	BRIGHT GREY	£14.90
ZURICH	£18.70	AEGON SCOT EQUIT	£14.90

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Spyker boost for PR agency

INTERNATIONAL automotive public relations consultancy PFPR has been appointed to promote Dutch luxury sports car brand Spyker.

The brief covers all markets except North America and involves media relations, product launches, and events.

The agency's first priorities will be launching Spyker's new C8 Aileron supercar (pictured) to journalists and promoting the brand at the 2010 Geneva Motor Show next March.

PFPR, launched in 2001 by former motoring journalists Peter Frater and Peter Rawlinson, won the new business in competition with agencies across Europe, highlighting the agency's increasingly international reach – it won the BMW Mini account for the USA in August and has an office in Michigan, the US motor industry's home state. The Spyker name carries lots of heritage. The original company started as a coachbuilder in the 19th century, building the Golden Carriage still used for state occasions by the Dutch royal family. It went on to build high-quality cars and commercial vehicles and then aircraft and aero engines, before going bust in 1929.

The modern-day company, founded in 1999, is unrelated but has made shrewd use of nostalgia for the original.

Mr Rawlinson said: "Spyker is an emotive and dynamic brand with a number of developments planned over the next 18 months."

Spyker specialises in high-powered hand-built sports cars, producing the 400bhp C8 Spyder and C8 Laviolette since 2000 and launching the C8 Aileron in September.

PFPR, based at Turkey Mill in Maidstone, employs 20 people and clients include the Dartford-based Mazda UK, Mini USA, Kia Motors Europe, Chrysler International, Hyundai Motors Europe, Castrol, Glass's Guide publisher EurotaxGlass's, Maserati, Cadillac, Austrian motorcycle brand KTM and car care and valeting products brand Autoglym.

Scrap southbound toll, urges FTA

THE Freight Transport Association (FTA) has thrown its weight behind the Government's proposal to scrap the southbound toll at the Dartford Crossing.

It is one of the proposals being considered by the Department of Transport to ease congestion and address environmental concerns. The Tunbridge Wells-based trade body has been calling for precisely this measure as it will significantly reduce southbound commercial delivery times and associated transport costs.

Gordon Telling, FTA's head of policy for the south east, said: "With a typical HGV costing £50 an hour to run, anything that can be done to reduce the time a lorry is spent sitting in traffic is good for hauliers and will also improve air quality. Motorists have to use this crossing as there are no viable alternative routes, making the volume of traffic particularly high.

"This stretch of the M25 is pretty congested, especially southbound. So, removing toll plazas – for a crossing that has long since been paid for anyway – removes a bottleneck that costs businesses hundreds of thousands year."

Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

1909

100 YEARS AGO: "BEAT Northfleet on their own ground one to nil! Can't make it out, a mystery aint it?" 2,500 fans, used to seeing Northfleet humble all comers, struggled to get their head round the concept of losing, after they were beaten at home by Sheppey United.

Tunbridge Wells Rangers won 2-1 at Chesham, despite having only 10 men. The performance was all the more remarkable given that their goalkeeper, Richardson, refused to travel at the last minute, after hearing the club were trying to sign a replacement. His replacement Lambe, impressed in his absence.

There was a chastening trip for New Brompton when they took on Northampton in the Southern League. The future Gills trailed 2-0 at the break and eventually crashed to a 7-1 defeat in front of 8,000 at the County Ground, their only goal coming when Reynolds converted a penalty when the visitors were already 7-0 down.

1959

50 YEARS AGO: A WEEK after Ramsgate unveiled their floodlights at Southwood, neighbours Margate caught up, playing the first ever game under lights at Hartsdown Park in front of a crowd of 4,000.

West Ham United were their opponents and the illustrious visitors comfortably won 3-1, a scoreline that would have been harsher on the Gate but for some impressive keeping by Earl.

Tunbridge Wells were anticipating a record crowd for their FA Cup derby with Gravesend at their Eridge Road ground and a few miles up the A26, Tonbridge Angels set a new club record when they won 27 corners against Kettering.

As many as 2,000 fans watched on as Tonbridge spent the second period camped in the Kettering half and the pressure eventually yielded a 4-2 victory.

TESTS: Brian Luckhurst was waiting on the fitness of Alan Knott

1984

25 YEARS AGO: ALAN Knott said he would make a decision on whether or not to retire by the end of the month. Knott, 38, was plagued by a long-term foot injury and was waiting to see if a specially designed shoe could prolong his career.

Manager Brian Luckhurst said: "Alan as usual will be training hard during the winter, but it will be some weeks before he knows whether the support has led to a significant improvement."

Linesman Graham Crafter from Mereworth fulfilled a longstanding ambition when he was pressed into service as an emergency referee during the Division Three game between Brentford and Bradford City, after three years spent running the line.

"I'm probably too old to make the League referees' list, but at least I can say I refereed a match," he said.

Ancestor does best to do Blythe justice

Colin Blythe was the undisputed star of the county cricket circuit 100 years ago, but he was often overlooked by the England selectors who cited nervousness – a possible euphemism for epilepsy – for his apparent failings, prior to his death in World War One. FRED ATKINS reviews The Real Colin Blythe, an account of a genuinely tragic story

TRYING to write a biography without the direct assistance of the subject is difficult enough, so when the subject has been dead for 92 years the author can be on a hiding to nothing.

Earlier this year John Blythe Smart published The Real Colin Blythe, an account of the life of one of his ancestors, the Kent and England bowler of the title, who was killed during World War One.

If you followed Kent on Sunday's timeline feature through the summer you'll know that a century ago Blythe was the talk of the county cricket circuit, a man who, having taken a wicket with the very first ball in First Class cricket against Yorkshire at Tonbridge in 1899, claimed 2,502 further victims in a 15-year career, at an average of 16.91.

His story is compelling, but the problem for any Blythe biographer is the lack of any living witnesses.

It's just possible there may be a few people still alive today who were present when Blythe played, but it seems implausible any would have coherent memories of watching him – a three-year-old who watched Blythe in the 1914 season would now be 95 years of age.

Urban myths

Smart, however, has the advantage over Blythe's previous biographer, Christopher Scoble, of being related to his subject and therefore in possession of a number of previously unseen documents.

He is anxious to nail a few urban myths, principally the idea that Blythe was some kind of cheeky Deptford street urchin, born in a slum and appealed to Canterbury women in search of a bit of rough.

Yet his study of Blythe's ancestry, which takes up 36 of the book's 253 pages, is excessive and though his career is then covered in forensic detail, there is the nagging feeling that there was a bigger story here.

Blythe only played 19 Tests for England and has been compared to an early Graeme Hick or Mark Ramprakash, incapable of performing to his potential on the biggest stage.

This is harsh, not only because he took 100 Test wickets at an average of 18.63, but also because of underlying health problems, including possible epilepsy, which the England selectors used to justify his omission from a Test they subsequently lost in 1909.

Smart argues there is no conclusive evidence Blythe was epileptic, claiming he was just one of many players down the years to occasionally be affected by nerves on the big occasion.

He is rightly critical of the decision to leak private medical information to the press to mask selectorial ineptitude, but if Blythe actually did suffer from epilepsy it makes his achievements more, not less, remarkable. How many epileptic sports stars can you name today?

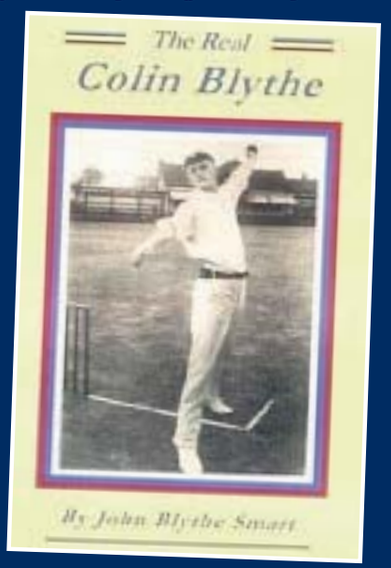
For statistical thoroughness the book can't be faulted and there are enjoyable passages detailing a pioneering tour of the USA, as well as numerous geographical namechecks for Blythe's first marital home at St Mary's Road, Tonbridge, and Crabble, (Blythe liked the Dover venue so much he collected pictures of it).

His triumphs, too numerous to list in a review, are all here, but there is no happy ending. At the age of 38, Blythe was killed instantly when he was hit by shrapnel from a shell at Passchendaele in Belgium.

Smart deals with this horrific incident with remarkable sobriety and anyone looking for sex, cricket and rock 'n' roll should try a different book.

Yet cricketing academics by contrast will find it fascinating, as might those whose interest is piqued by the memorial to Blythe and Kent's other fallen cricketers at the St Lawrence Ground.

• The Real Colin Blythe is available from Blythe Smart Publications, priced £11.99.



FALLEN HERO: Colin Blythe outside the Constitutional Club in Tonbridge in October 1914. The words 'Off to enlist' can be seen at the bottom – Blythe was on his way to Gillingham to join up

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Is this right up your allez?

For those eager to watch top-flight football, reporter FRED ATKINS looks to French fields in his search for the best-value ticket available to the county's sports fans

A CLASSIC pub quiz question: if you're standing on the platform at Ashford International station, where is the nearest top-flight football ground?

For the best part of a decade it was The Valley, but after Charlton's relegation in 2007, it became Upton Park.

Then, as of May 29 this year, it changed again.

If you're scratching your head, thinking Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Burnley must be nearer than you remembered, you're looking in the wrong direction.

As the crow flies, 40 miles south east of Ashford, lies the 15,000 seater Stade de la Liberation, home of Union Sportive Bolougne Cote d'Opale, or Boulogne as they're known in league tables.

'In France, football clubs are seen as a vehicle for civic pride – ironically as far fewer fans actually turn up to watch'

Formed in 1898 and known as the 'Rouge et Noir' after their red and black hooped jerseys, Boulogne had a respectable if unremarkable history, until the start of the new millennium when they made a rapid ascent of the French pyramid.

The other side of the Channel had already witnessed a near miracle in 2000 when Calais, themselves in the fourth tier, reached the French Cup final and were unlucky to lose 2-1 to Nantes.

By 2005, Boulogne had made the third division. Two years later they were in the second tier and last year they grabbed the third and final promotion place.

It's tempting to compare this to Folkestone Invicta or Dover Athletic, clubs from Channel ports of roughly the same size, rising to the Premier League, but there are significant differences.

Boulogne spent the early part of the decade in the fourth division, but due to regionalisation there are far more clubs at this level than there are in England.

They also benefited from substantial public sector support. During the 1990s the club were heading for oblivion until the mayor intervened with a donation of one million francs.

The stadium is publicly owned, but unlike countless run-down facilities on this side of the water, the Liberation is a 15,000-seat arena, one of whose stands is named after the town's most famous export, Franck Ribery.

Yet it still isn't considered good enough. A replacement is being built and the local authorities had to make significant, short-term improvements to the Liberation.

"The club's promotion to League One obliged the town to make a series of temporary but necessary arrangements," the club's website reports, a sentence that will have chairmen across Kent salivating with envy.

In France, football clubs are seen as a vehicle for civic pride – ironically as far fewer fans actually turn up to watch.

This year Boulogne are averaging more than 10,000 fans – not bad for a town with a population of 75,000, but barely half the gate of the Premier League's lowest-supported side, Portsmouth, who are constrained by Fratton Park's capacity.

By the time you get down to the fourth division, gates are comparable with the Ryman League, though Calais, another club with a superb 12,000-seat stadium, better than anything in Kent, fare better, a legacy of their cup heroics and their current position on top of their regional league.

One hundred years ago Woolwich Arsenal's directors were concerned they were losing support because transport links from the county to Plumstead were so bad.

Now you can get to the Emirates from Ashford in an hour, but it'll cost you £15 just to join the waiting list for a season ticket. For that price three people can watch Boulogne for five euros each and it won't take you a lot longer to get there.

NEAREST GROUNDS

DEPENDING on where you live in the county, the nearest top-flight football ground as the crow flies is either Fulham, West Ham or Boulogne, though actual door-to-door travelling time depends on connections, the frequency of services and engineering works.

But if you live in Ashford you can now get to all five Premier League clubs and three League One grounds inside two hours.

Distances are given as the crow flies. Public transport allows for connections.

Road times, somewhat optimistically, do not take into account traffic jams or parking.

ASHFORD TOWN
Distance: 3 miles. By road: 8 minutes. Public transport: You may as well live on the Orkneys.
Pros: Local team, pleasant surroundings.
Cons: Hasn't been much fun watching the Nuts & Bolts for a while.

ARSENAL
Distance: 50.8 miles. By road: 1:38. Public transport: 1:00
Pros: Is there a better sight in sport than the Gunners on the attack?
Cons: It'll cost you more to buy a hot dog and a drink than it will to get in at Boulogne.

BOULOGNE
Distance: 43.5 miles. By road: 1:40. Public transport: Three-hours plus.
Pros: Amazingly good value at five euros a ticket.
Cons: The Eurostar doesn't go to Boulogne.

CHELSEA
Distance: 51.6 miles. By road: 1:33. Public transport: 1:20.
Pros: Strong chance of seeing a trophy this year.
Cons: Rivals Arsenal in the pricing stakes.

FULHAM
Distance: 54.8 miles. By road: 1:40.
Public transport: 1:20.
Pros: Atmosphere of a family club, easy to get a ticket.
Cons: David Hamilton.

LENS
Distance: 98.5 miles. By road: 2:00.
Public transport: 1:30.
Pros: Best atmosphere of any football ground in France.
Cons: That's like being voted the most talented member of Liberty X.

LOYAL FOLLOWING: Boulogne fans at the Stade de la Liberation and Upton Park (left), home of the Hammers

LILLE
Distance: 101.7 miles. By road: 2:20.
Public transport: 1:10.
Pros: Easy connections from Lille station, decent side who beat Manchester United in the Champions League a few seasons ago.
Cons: A spectacular new stadium is planned, but the present one is a bit of a dive.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
Distance: 51.4 miles. By road. 1:30.
Public transport: 1:15.
Pros: Easier to get to than ever before thanks to the new St Pancras service.
Cons: Could you honestly be seen dead at the Lane?

WEST HAM UNITED
Distance: 45.1 miles. By road. 1:27.
Public transport: 1:20.
Pros: Stylish football under Gianfranco Zola, strong tradition of support in Kent.
Cons: Although the Eurostar passes within a couple of miles of the ground, connections are awful.

AND JUST FOR FANS WHO MIGHT CONSIDER A ONCE IN A LIFETIME PILGRIMAGE...

LIVERPOOL
Distance: 230 miles. By road: 4:39. Public transport: Minimum four hours.
Pros: Deafening atmosphere on European nights.
Cons: 'Rafa' Benitez's pen is always out.

MANCESTER UNITED
Distance: 208 miles. By road: 4:36. Public transport: 4:30.
Pros: None.
Cons: Would you like a novel?

Picture: RACINGAPRILIA.COM

OPPORTUNITY: Leon Camier will race for Aprilia for remainder of the World Superbike season

Trial could clinch Camier World deal

LEON Camier could tie up his future sooner rather than later if he can impress while on trial with the Aprilia World Superbike Championship team.

The 23-year-old newly crowned British Superbike champion joined the Aprilia team last week to compete in the final two rounds of the World Superbike season.

The Kent rider has been linked to the team in previous seasons, but his dominance in the British Championship this year, clocking up 17 wins, has increased the attention surrounding the rider.

Camier, who has made no secret of where he wishes to ply his trade next season, is hoping to impress after being offered a chance to race at the next round of the world series in Portugal.

The Ashford rider was unlucky not to crown his debut ride in the series in France last week with two points finishes, but mechanical problems in both races forced him into retirement.

He told Kent on Sunday: "The ride has definitely confirmed that the World Championship is where I want to be next season.

"I think Aprilia are looking at me regarding the possibility of a deal to ride for them next season, which is great. I have just got to hope I can put in a solid ride in Portugal and catch their attention. We have to wait and see what happens.

"To be honest I wasn't expecting the opportunity and it was a great experience. Obviously it was disappointing not to finish the races, but I was happy with what I achieved, considering it was a completely new bike to get used to."

Before taking part in the final round of the World Superbike Championship later this month, Camier will complete his British Superbike season this afternoon at Cheshire's Oulton Park.

Laps entertainment

Pictures: NICK DUNGAN

IN THE POINTS: Rob Collard claimed points finishes but Team Motorbase's weekend finished on a sour note

Kent on Sunday sports reporter TOM HOWARD goes behind the scenes with Kent British Touring Car team, Motorbase Performance, to see how they prepared for the final round of the championship at Brands Hatch

AS A keen motorsport fan and an avid follower of the British Touring Car Championship, being invited to join Kent's Motorbase Performance for the final round of this year's series at Brands Hatch, was one too good to turn down.

I was asked to join the team for last weekend's crucial round at the Kent track, which represented an opportunity to see exactly what's involved in getting the cars ready for race day.

The majority of the teams arrive at a circuit on a Thursday when all the frantic work begins before the scheduled three races on the Sunday.

The scale of the project for a race weekend is staggering. The Motorbase team, who made the short journey to Brands from their factory in Wrotham, is made up of 22 staff, which includes mechanics, engineers, drivers and support staff.

Three articulated lorries transport the cars – worth £150,000 each – and equipment, with one completely filled with enough spare parts to build another car.

Briefing

I joined the team on the Friday and after a team briefing with owner David Bartrum, it soon became clear that the day's efforts, which included setting the cars up and testing them on the 2.3-mile Grand Prix circuit, could make or break the team's weekend.

Bartrum explained: "It's very full on and Friday can be the most important day of a race weekend. Basically we use this day to get set up and it can become stretched with the amount of cars we run.

"The engineers are particularly busy as they have to analyse data and decide where to make changes. They dabble with changes on the cars to make the recipe for our weekend race plan. For me, I am everywhere working with the Porsches and the Touring cars."

Motorbase are entered in both the British Touring Car Championship, where they have two cars, and the Porsche Carrera Cup, in which three cars are submitted to race.

The mechanics set to work on preparing the cars for Saturday's qualifying, which is crucial in motorsport as that denotes starting or grid positions for Sunday's races.

The cars require a number of changes, which would seem superficial to an onlooker, but they can equate to fractions of seconds on the track, which in this series could be the margin between victory and second place. First, the BMW saloons – or the touring cars – are driven for 15km, known as a 'shakedown run', in order to establish the car's performance.

Once completed, wholesale changes are often made involving ride height, gear ratios, suspension settings and even an engine change if needed, which can unbelievably take the team only an hour to complete.

When I returned on Saturday, the work stepped up a notch to prepare for the day's all-important qualifying session.

'There was no need to ask what had happened as it was clear by the look on their faces and the garage fell silent and cheers erupted down the pit lane'

After each session, data from both cars were recorded on a tiny memory card which was analysed by engineers in an office in one of the trucks. The office is where drivers and engineers discuss how they can improve the performance with the help of the car's onboard cameras.

Sunday came around quickly and Motorbase's two drivers, Jonny Adam and Rob Collard, qualified in seventh and eighth place on the grid respectively.

The garage on race day was a hive of activity and three hours before the first race I was greeted by the sight of mechanics frantically making changes to the gearbox of Collard's car.

The team have just 15 minutes between the cars leaving the garage to the start of the race as a chance to make any last-minute changes on the grid.

Team members, media and sponsors all congregate around the cars on the grid in a mad rush just minutes before the race. Amid all the frenetic activity, mechanics do the final checks on the car and driver before the red lights go out.

As the cars set off on their formation lap, the grid is cleared and everyone rushed across the pit lane into the garages to switch their attention to the timing screens.

The first two races passed without any mechanical problems for the team as their drivers secured solid points finishes. Collard came home with a sixth and fourth place, while Adam finished seventh and fifth.

CROWDED: The pit lane is packed with teams going about their business and fans clamouring for a look at the cars

The final race of the weekend added somewhat of a surreal atmosphere to the paddock as the overall title became a three-way fight between Colin Turkington, Fabrizio Giovanardi and Jason Plato.

Yet it was Kent's Motorbase Performance that started the race on fire, galloping into second and third position to the delight of the pit lane crew.

But elation in the Motorbase garage soon turned to despair. Halfway round the opening lap both cars were punted out of the race when Adam briefly held the lead.

There was no need to ask the team what had happened as it was clear by their faces and the garage fell silent and cheers erupted further down the pit lane. With a chance to pick up a valuable race win against teams with bigger budgets, it was a missed opportunity through no fault of their own.

A disappointed Bartrum said: "Obviously it was not how we wanted to finish the season. There was something to be taken from the final race, but it just wasn't to be."

The season is over for 2009 but this circus begins all over again in April at Thruxton.

DRIVING SEAT: (l-r) Tom Howard with team Motorbase principal Oliver Collins, and checking out the cockpit of a BMW touring car

Arrogance is part of my game, says Roo

Gills teen says self-belief is key to his rapid rise

By TOM HOWARD

A HINT of arrogance is often scorned on, but Gillingham's new teen midfielder Luke Rooney insists it's an integral part of his game.

The 18-year-old burst on to the scene this season, scoring in the 3-0 win against Exeter and is still on a high after scoring a wonder goal to cap his first league start in last weekend's 4-1 defeat to Southampton.

Gills manager Mark Stimson had faith in starting Rooney at St Mary's last week and was rewarded with a goal that he claimed wouldn't have looked out of place in the Champions League.

For Rooney, it's been a whirlwind start to his senior career, having made the leap from the youth side last season.

"I still can't believe it really," he told Kent on Sunday. "To score on my first start in front of 19,000 people was brilliant. Going to places like Southampton and Leeds United is unreal considering I was playing in the youth team last season."

Self-belief

The youngster is the club's hottest prospect to have come through the Gillingham youth system since Luke Freeman departed for Arsenal in January, 2008.

He has forced his way into the first-team squad after impressing during Gillingham's pre-season campaign and puts his rise to prominence down to self-belief and working with Stimson and youth coach Mark Patterson.

"Belief is a massive part to my game," he said. "Some people like to call me arrogant, but I think it is something you need to have to do well. I like to think I am mature beyond my years and being around the first-team players has probably helped that.

Picture: ADY KERRY

CONFIDENT: Luke Rooney has gone from strength to strength for Gillingham this season

"At the start of the season the target was to get into the squad and now I have done that, the next target is to cement a place in the side."

Stimson admitted the club's lengthening injury list has helped Rooney find a place in the squad, but has been pleasantly surprised by the young midfielder's speedy progress.

He said: "He is someone who has got great ability and a lot of belief. However, we have got to nurture him we can't expect him to affect the game every week. I am sure in time he will be a decent player."

Pictures: Coles, Edwards and Lee: PHIL HOUGHTON. Blake and Goodman: ANTHONY ROBERTS

CONTRACTS: (Top) Alex Blake, (middle l-r) Matt Coles, James Goodman, (bottom l-r) Phil Edwards and Warren Lee

Kent prospects sign new deals to stay at club

FIVE Kent youngsters have put pen to paper and signed contract extensions to remain with the county next season.

Alex Blake, James Goodman, Matt Coles, Phil Edwards and Warren Lee, who all featured in the first-team this summer, have agreed to extend their present deals at St Lawrence.

Blake, 20, who forced his way into the championship and one-day sides, will continue with his degree at Leeds Metropolitan University and return to Kent at some point during next summer.

He said: "I am delighted to sign this new extended contract.

"I realise that I still have a lot to learn and will work on this over the winter because next season is an important one for me."

Education

Academy youngsters James Goodman, 18, and Matt Coles, 19, have been rewarded with new contracts which will allow them to continue their cricketing education under Academy director Phil Relf and Simon Willis, who takes charge of the second team next summer.

Bowlers Warren Lee, 22, and Phil Edwards, 25, have also been rewarded with new deals and new head coach Paul Farbrace is encouraged that the players have chosen to stay.

"The five players agreeing contract extensions is obviously fantastic news," he said. "Not only are these players developing as cricketers, they are also Kent through and through and understand what the club is about and where we are looking to go in the future."

With the England and Wales Cricket Board offering financial incentives to counties that produce young local talent, the signings are a clear indication as to how Kent will be looking to strengthen next season.

Graham Johnson, the county's director of cricket, said: "We are, with the support of Kent Cricket Board, fully committed to producing talented young cricketers and this is demonstrated by these new signings. With recent changes made by the ECB regarding England qualified players, this is a great time for young home-grown players to make their mark."

Tak itching for a comeback fight

KENT'S premier boxer has issued a 'come and fight me' plea after announcing his desire to return to the ring, ***writes Glenn Pearson.***

Mehrdud Takaloo has been weighing up his options after losing his last fight to Anthony Small for the Southern Area light middleweight title back in January last year.

The 34-year-old, from Margate, had contemplated giving up the sport, but after almost two years out of boxing, the former WBU light middleweight title holder has made a decision to put the gloves on once again.

Whether he will be able to get the fight he wants after having spent so long out of the ring is debatable, but he made the announcement to return while at the Prizefighter event, won by Audley Harrison in London last weekend, and hopes to get back in the ring soon.

"I went to the show and announced my comeback," he said. "I have kept in touch with boxing, in truth I have been really missing it. I'm in shape and I have been sparring and I'm ready to fight anyone. I want to get back in the ring."

LAY-OFF: Takaloo's last fight ended in a stoppage defeat against Anthony Small in January last year Picture: GETTY IMAGES

The turning point in Takaloo's career came in the grudge fight with Wayne Alexander for the vacant light middleweight title in September, 2004.

The Margate Rock was brutally knocked out in the second round, something he has found hard to come back from and it was a missed opportunity to put him at the top of the pile in the British light middleweight division.

Takaloo has fought just five times since that fight more than five years ago, recording three wins and two back-to-back defeats.

He concedes it's going to be difficult to find the right fight, but intends to explore all the avenues to make a successful return.

"I can't wait to get back in the ring but at the moment there isn't a lot out there," he said. "I spoke to [promoter] Barry Hearn about the Prizefighter event as that could be a route back in.

"That's opened doors for Audley Harrison but at the moment I've got to wait for an opportunity."

FOOTBALL
Do you know where the closest top-flight football ground is? **69**

MOTORSPORT
Tom Howard spends a weekend at Brands with Team Motorbase **70**

DENLY GETS CHANCE TO SHINE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Kent batsman eyes one-day series as route to England's Test team

By **GLENN PEARSON**

JOE Denly hopes to use England's One-Day International series against South Africa to further his claims for a place in the Test side.

The Kent opener was named in England's 16-man squad for the five one-day and two Twenty20 Internationals against the Proteas, but missed out on selection for the four-match Test series.

The 23-year-old made a steady if unspectacular start to his international career in the Natwest series against Australia last month and then in the Champions Trophy campaign, but he did enough to impress a number of pundits who tipped him to be England's back-up batsman.

Showcase

While the Test call from the ECB never came, or for Kent team-mates Rob Key, Geraint Jones or James Tredwell, Denly is hoping his selection in the limited overs games that precede the Test series, will be a chance to showcase his skills to ensure his name is at the top of the pile should there be any injuries.

"It was always in the back of my mind that I might be included in the Test team," he told Kent on Sunday. "But I think they made the right decision, I haven't been that great to warrant a place in that squad.

"But if I put some performances together in the one-day series, that may be my door into the Test team. You never know, players may pick up injuries."

The fact the Whitstable-born batsman made any appearances against Australia, and latterly the Champions Trophy, is remarkable considering the extent of the knee injury he picked up playing football with his England team-mates before the start of the series.

Having missed the opening three games of the seven-match series, he went on to score 134 runs in the final four games with a respectable average of 33.5, including a maiden half-century.

Not going on to make a match-winning contribution may be down to a brief lack of concentration, something he has learned is perhaps the biggest difference between playing international cricket and the county game.

"I suppose I was guilty in most of my innings of getting starts and not going on to make big scores," he said.

"I guess it might have been down to concentration but I was also keen and eager to do well.

"Playing for England, you are definitely in the spotlight and people often pick up things with your technique. I wouldn't say there is a massive gap between Test cricket and county cricket, the biggest thing I would say is the intensity. From ball one there is no let up, whereas in county cricket you can take your foot off the gas and get away with it to some extent."

Denly joins up with the England squad at the end of the month before flying out to South Africa on November 1, ahead of the first warm-up game against a President's XI.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

OPPORTUNITY: Joe Denly can put himself in the frame as England's back-up Test series batsman

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STRUGGLE: Liam Daish needs money to strengthen his Fleet squad Picture: IGOR KUPCO

The Fleet need you

EBBSFLEET United are calling for supporters to raise £45,000 to bring in four new signings to help the club turn around a poor start to the season.

The North Kent club have struggled in the Blue Square Premier League, with only one win from their first 15 games before yesterday's trip to Cambridge.

The poor start to the campaign has led Fleet chairman Duncan Holt and manager Liam Daish to issue a plea to fans to help boost the playing budget.

Manager Daish has had to assemble virtually a new squad after budget cuts forced him to release the majority of last season's team. He admitted he is desperate to bring in a full back, two midfielders and a striker.

He told Kent on Sunday: "We are in a precarious position at the moment. We have a good size squad but a lot of the young players are still getting to grips with Conference football and we need three or four experienced heads to help them."

Fleet chairman Holt has put £500 into the fund and is hoping fans will follow to help the club's fortunes this season.

He said: "Basically we are asking for around an extra £1,200 a week for Daish to use. We are asking for such a large sum now, which can be used throughout the season, so we are not asking for money more than once a season.

"I appreciate this again is asking for money but staying in national football is important to us and if we continue as we are, gates and commercial income will fall further."